STARS STRIPES.

Army halfback Davis, '46 Heisman winner, dead at 80 Back page



Detainee abuse report blames individual troops, commanders

Lee Ann Womack returns to her country roots

Volume 2, No.333 @ SS 2005 MIDEAST EDITION

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2005

DOD scolded for not reimbursing troops

Senator: Delays in repaying GIs for combat gear violates law Page 5



Remember to thank your Command for today's copy of Stars and Stripes.



Your Stars and Stripes is now printed and delivered locally from Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, and Qatar giving you up-to-date daily news, sports and entertainment.

Without the assistance of local commands, your friends and fellow soldiers would be isolated without news from home.

Contact
Stars and Stripes
circulation with
questions about
delivery at
49-6155-601-455
DSN: 349-8455

To contact a reporter in the field, email Iraq@mail.estripes.osd.mil



Ne ws Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Flight 93 memorial: A memorial honoring the 40 people who died when hijacked Flight 93 crashed in a Pennsylvania field during the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks will cost \$30 million, according to a study.

The \$30 million primarily will be used to build the memorial, but the money also will go toward roads, parking lots and a visitor's

center.

A capital campaign will be organized to raise donations, said Joanne M. Hanley, superintendent of the proposed memorial.

A national competition to design the memorial yielded five finalists who have until June 15 to submit more detailed plans for the crash site near Shanksville, about 65 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. A panel will select a winning design by Sept. 11.

L.A. murder fugitive: Jesse James Hollywood, a fugitive wanted in the August 2000 kidnapping and slaying of a 15-year-old boy, has been captured, authorities in Los Angeles said Wednesday.

Sheriff Jim Anderson was scheduled to release details of the apprehension Thursday morning, according to a recorded message released Wednesday by the San Barbara County Sheriff's Department.

FBI sources also told The Associated Press that Hollywood has been taken into custody. Further details were not immediately available.

Hollywood was an alleged drug dealer who orchestrated a plot to kidnap and kill 15-year-old Nick Markowitz because of bad blood with Markowitz's half brother.

Brain-dead inmate: An inmate who was left brain-dead after being shot with a rubber bullet by a prison guard died from injuries from the projectile, according to an autoosy report released Wednesday.

Daniel D. Provencio, 28, was shot in the head with the supposedly non-lethal projectile Jan. 16 during an altercation at Wasco State Prison. He was taken to Bakersfield's Mercy Hospital, where he remained in a coma and was hooked to a ventilator for weeks before he died Friday.

Bus waste dumping: A bus driver for the Dave Matthews Band pleaded guilty Wednesday to charges stemming from the dumping of 800 pounds of human waste from his vehicle's septic tank onto a sightseeing boat on the Chicago River.

Stefan Wohl was sentenced to 18 months probation and 150 hours of community service, said Tom Stanton, a spokesman for the Cook County state's attorney's office. He also was fined the maximum of \$10,000, which will be paid to Priends of the Chicago River, a conservation group Wohl, 42, of Selma, Texas, was charged with reckless conduct and discharging contaminates to cause water pollution.

World

France pedophilia-ring trial: A lead suspect in a massive pedophilia trial in Angers, France, who is accused of having sexually abused his grandchildren coldly told the court Thursday: "My kids, I don't love them"

The trial of 66 people accused of involvement in the rape, sexual abuse and forced prostitution of children, including some too young to walk, moved into a new phase with the grandfather and other suspects facing detailed questions about their background and personal histories.

The grandfather, who was previously convicted of raping his son, faces life imprisonment on charges of rape and sexual abuse of minors.

Kosovo indictment: The U.N. tribunal for



Gambino family arrests: Arnold Squitieri, center, accused underboss of the Gambino crime family, is led away Modensday by federal agents in New York. Squitieri, the acting boss of the family, and at least 30 other mol figures were arrested after an undercover FBI agent posing as a hit man infiltrated the Mafia with an act so convincing he was considered for membership, authorities said. Also facing racketeering charges is reputed underboss Anthony "The Genius" Megale. Prosecutors said Squitieri, Megale and other defendants made millions of dollars through extortion, loansharking. Illegal zambling and other crimes during the oast decade.

the former Yugoslavia released its indictment Thursday against Kosovo's former prime minister, charging him with 37 counts of war crimes for alleged atrocities against Serbs.

Ramush Haradinaj, a former commander of the ethnic Albanian rebels who fought against Serb forces in Kosovo's 1998-99 war, surrendered to the court on Wednesday after resigning as prime minister of the province.

In the indictment unsealed by U.N. judges in The Hague, Netherlands, Haradinaj faces 17 counts of crimes against humanity for alleged murder, rape, persecution, inhumane acts, unlawful detention, deportation or forcible transfer of civilians. He also faces 20 counts of violations of the laws or customs of war for cruel treatment, murder and rape.

Hong Kong leader: Hong Kong's beleaguered leader said Thursday he's quitting because of failing health — not pressure

from his bosses in Beijing — as the global

financial capital moved

into a new political era

that could bring power



struggles, more demands for full democracy and meddling by China.
Tung Chee-hwa's resignation ended a politi-

two weeks in the former British colony that returned to Chinese rule eight years ago.

Pope's health: Pope John Paul II will extend his hospital stay "a few more days" but still plans to return to the Vatican in time for the start of Holy Week that begins on Palm Sunday on March 20, the pontiff's spokesman said Thursday.

No date had been given for the frail pope's return, but the announcement appeared to suggest there may have been a plan to release him earlier that was dropped to give him more time to regain his strength.

At the hospital he is receiving only his closest aides, while back at the Vatican he might be tempted to resume regular audiences with visiting bishops and foreign offi-

Lebanon prime minister: Lebanon's president, emboldened by a massive pro-Syria demonstration in Beirut, reinstated Omar Karami as prime minister on Thursday, 10 days after the Damascus-backed leader stepped down under popular and interna-

tional pressure.

The move ensured Syria's continued dominance in Lebanese politics. Syria's allies felt they have the momentum in the political crisis and President Emile Lahoud's decision appeared to be in part political jockeying to show who sets the agenda as Syria's troop redeoloyment picked up.

Serbia war crimes: A former chief of police under Bosnia's wartime leader Radovan Karadzic was to surrender to the U.N. war crimes court at The Hague, Netherlands, the government in Belgrade said

Thursday.

Mico Stanisic, who served as interior minister in the Bosnian Serb breakaway state led by Karadzic during the 1992-95 war, has decided to give himself up voluntarily after talks with government officials in Belgrade, a press release from the Cabinet said.

Recent Bosnian media reports claimed Stanisic had been indicted by The Hague tribunal and was living freely in Belgrade

Nepal civil liberties: Nepal's King Gyanendra could soon restore some of the civil liberties he suspended after seizing power last month, the foreign minister said Thursday, a day after the government released several political detainees and promised to restore mobile phone services.

"Let me assure you that the temporary suspension of the rights of our citizens will be revoked sooner [rather] than later," Foreign Minister Ramesh Nath Pandey told some foreign diplomats in the capital, Katmandu.

Pandey did not elaborate, but the diplo-

mats interpreted his comments as an indication that the new royal government which dissolved parliament and declared a state of emergency on Feb. 1 — was seeking reconciliation with political parties.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Investigator faults troops for detainee abuses

BY JON R. ANDERSON Stars and Strines

WASHINGTON - A top investigator ordered by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to look into abuses at Abu Ghraib and other military detention facilities laid blame at the feet of individual troops and their commanders, but not top-level officials and policy-makers.

Reporting to the Senate Armed Services Committee on Thursday.

Vice Adm Albert Church reported his key finding that was "clearly,

there was no policy written or otherwise at any level that directed or con doned torture or



After more than 800 interviews and reviewing thousands of pages of documents, Church said that while officials in Washington could learn from "missed opportunities" in providing better guidance to field commanders, no specific blame could be cast.

"Nevertheless," he added, "we did identify problems. Among his findings:

■ Leadership breakdown: Citing a "breakdown of good order and discipline" among some units. Church wrote in the unclassified version of the report's executive summary, "This breakdown

Senior officers may yet face discipline

The fates of several senior officers still hang in balance as officials wrap up investigation While some have been cleared, others are expected to face disciplinary action even as civil lawsuits are being filed. Among those waiting:

Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez - Leader of U.S. and coalition forces in Iraq from April 2003 to July 2004. An internal Army investigation and independent panel found Sanchez failed to provide proper oversight at Abu Ghraib and issued confusing policies on interrogations.

Status: Under investigation. Remains commander of V Corps. Recently named in an American Civil Liberties Union lawsuit under charges of war

Maj. Gen. Walter Wojdakowski — Sanchez's deputy commander in Iraq and, until recently, at V Corps. Responsible for overseeing support to detention facilities as well as direct oversight of the 205th MI Brigade and 800th MP Brigade at Abu Ghraib. Previous investigations determined he failed to provide proper leadership.

Status: Recently reassigned as special assistant to the commander of Army forces in Europe. Remains under investigation

Maj. Gen. Barbara Fast — Senior intelligence staff officer under Sanchez. Questions have been raised about her involvement in Abu Ghraib

Status: Exonerated by Army investigators and is expected to take command of Army intelligence training in Arizona soon.

training in Arizona soon.

Brig. Gen. Janis Karpinski — Commander of 800th Military Police Brigade. Harshly criticized by investigators for weak and ineffectual leadership that created a climate at Abu Ghraib that led to the abuses. One investigation also accused her of "material misrepresentations" during questioning. Status: Suspended from command duties. Recently issued a letter of reprimand by Army Chief

of Staff Dick Cody, Named in ACLU lawsuit Col. Thomas Pappas — Commander of 205th Military Intelligence in Iraq. Accused of multiple leadership failures, including improperly authoriz-

ing the use of dogs in interrogations.

Status: Remains commander of 205th MI Bri-

Status: Remains commander of Zusun au par-gade, now redeployed home to Germany. Under in-vestigation. Named in ACLU lawsuit. Lt. Col. Stephen L. Jordan — Director of Joint Interrogation Debriefing Center. Accused of multiple leadership failures, including properly training and supervising his troops and for being deceitful during abuse investigations. Failure to obey direct orders to not talk about the case with others. "He conducted an e-mail campaign soliciting support from others involved in the investigation Status: Under investigation.

- Jon Anderson

implies a failure of unit-level lead-

■ Heat of combat: "The nature of the enemy, and the tactics it has employed in Iraq (and to a lesser extend in Afghanistan) may have played a role in this abuse," wrote Church, explaining that 23 out of 70 documented cases of abuse occurred at the "point of capture" when emotions are running high

■ Ignored warning signs: Writing that he could not provide upclassified details, "there was a failure to react to early warning signs of abuse" by local commanders. Church testified that the Red Cross in particular had repeatedly raised red flags at Abu Ghraib. but that leadership reaction was "not as swift as it could have

Church, who until recently was

gunmen killed two district police

chiefs and two others Iraqis in at-

tacks in Baghdad on Thursday. Also, an accountant working for a

Kurdish television station was

Assailants in two cars opened fire on a pickup truck carrying

Col. Ahmed Abeis, the head of Sa

lihiyah police in western Bagh-dad, killing him, his driver and a guard, police Col. Khazim Abbas

In an Internet statement.

group claiming to be Al-Qaida in

Iraq took responsibility for an at-

tack in the same area on "an intel-

ligence officer who used to investigate the Mujahedeen and hurt them." The authenticity of the

statement could not be verified

In a separate attack, gunmen also killed the chief of Jisr Divala

in southeast Baghdad, Col. Avad

Abdul-Razaq, a police officer said on condition of anonymity.

killed in northern Iraq.

the Navy Inspector General and now heads the Navy staff at the Pentagon, took fire from various corners of the committee, however, for not delving deeper into some areas of concern.

Michigan Sen Carl Levin the ranking Democrat on the committee, was quick to take Church to "There has been no assessment

of accountability of any senior of-

failure of accountability of senior leaders sends the wrong signal to our troops and the American people. It harms the United States' standing as a nation of laws, and undermines the high standards of our armed forces.

"The bland label of 'missed opportunities' does not explain the absence of policies," added Levin. "These are failures of command at high level."

Church, who earlier said he was ordered to review the investigations completed so far and fill in the gaps not covered by those reports, responded he was not sked with delving into the qu tion of leadership accountability.

In a heated exchange with Ari-Republican Sen. John McCain, Church defended the Bush administration's decision to withhold Geneva Convention protections from captured Taliban soldiers in Afghanistan

You know the North Vietnamese made the same determination about American prisoners," said McCain, who, as a naval aviator spent five years at the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" after getting shot down during the Vietnam war.

'It's a good debate," responded

'Well sir. I think it's a little more than a good debate," MCCain said. "I am very concerned about what will happen to Americans who are taken prisoner unless we have clear and specific guidelines that we adhere to?

Blast at funeral kills at least 30 in Mosul

BY SINDBAD AHMED The Associated Press

MOSUL, Iraq - A suicide bomber blew himself up at a Shiite mosque during a funeral Thursday, killing at least 30 people, an attack that came as Irag's main Shiite party and a Kurdish bloc said they reached a deal that sets the stage for a new government to be formed

U.S. troops cordoned off the northeastern Tameem neighborhood near the mosque, a poor area of the city crowded with many homes

Civilian vehicles helped ambulance crews in ferrying casualties to hospitals.

"As we were inside the mosque, we saw a ball of fire and heard a huge explosion," said Tahir Abdullah Sultan, 45, "After that blood and pieces of flesh were scattered around the place.

Insurgents in the past have targeted Shiite mosques and funer-

The U.S. military unit that con trols the area could not immediately be reached for comment.

Mosul has been a hotbed of in-surgent activity and the scene of many bombings, drive-by shootings and assassinations against the country's security services. Irag's Shiite majority and people thought to be working with U.S.-led forces.

The deal between the clergy-backed United Iraqi Alliance and a Kurdish coalition will allow a new government to be named when the National Assembly opens next week.

It calls for the government to begin discussion on the return of about 100.000 Kurds to the oil-rich northern city of Kirkuk and talks about redrawing existing Kurdish regions to include the city in Iraq's new constitution.

It also gives the Kurds just one major Cabinet post - one fewer than they demanded — in return for making one of their leaders, Jalal Talabani, Iraq's first-ever Kurdish president. One ministry will go to the country's Sunni minority, which largely stayed away from the Jan. 30 elec-

The Kurds agreed to back conservative Islamic Dawa Party leader Ibrahim al-Jaafari for prime minister

As part of the deal, any land agreement will be incorporated into the country's new constitution, which must be drafted by mid-August and approved by referendum two months later.

The dealmaking went on as violence continued against Iraq's se-



carry away the dead after a suicide homb er blew himself up Thursday during a funeral in the courtvard of a Shiite mosque in Mosul, Iraq. The attack killed at least 30 people and iniured

People help

U.S. deaths in Iraq The Associated Press

As of Wednesday, at least 1,512 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associat-ed Press count. At least 1,149 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense De-partment. The figures include four military civilians.

The AP count is eight higher

than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. EST Wednesday.

EST Wednesday.

The British military has reported 86 deaths; Italy, 20; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, eight; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each; and Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary, Ka-

The latest deaths reported by

the military:

One soldier was killed Wednesday when his patrol was hit by an explosive in Baghdad.

The latest identifications re-ported by the military: ■ Army Sgt. Andrew L. Bos-

sert, 24, Fountain City, Wis., and Army Pfc. Michael W. Franklin, 22, Coudersport, Pa.; died Monday in Ramadi, Iraq, when a vehicle-borne explosive detonated near them; assigned to the 44th Engineer Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infan-try Division, Camp Howze,

Operation Rock Hammer strikes Buhriz



PHOTOS BY CHARLIE COON/Stars and Stripes

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, 42nd Infantry Division enter a village near Buhriz, Iraq, on Tuesday while searching for weapons, explosives and insurgents during Operation Rock Ham

Soldiers search Iraqi town for insurgents, weapons

By CHARLIE COON

- The mission starts with a bang A handful of artillery explosions crack through the pre-dawn sky, waking up the sleeping communiighter jets streak overhead, leaving a trail of mic booms in their wake

"Psychological warfare; it might make a guy think rsychological wartate; in light hate a dgy linims twice about picking up his AK-47," said Capt. Ryan Howell of St. Louis, commander of Battery A, 1st Battalion, Joth Field Artillery Regiment, part of the 42nd Infantry Division's Task Force Liberty.

Operation Rock Hammer has begun: Now 500

troops — 375 American and 125 Iraqi soldiers — will

blitz through Buhriz to seize illegal weapons, explosives and insurgents: they're especially on the lookout for two men suspected of leading election day at-44 Psuchological

tacks against polling stations. Buhriz's 60,000 residents live in a place that offers strange mixes of primitive living and technological wonders, often under the same roof A house might not have flush toilets but it does have a satellite dish on its

For soldiers with vehicles, Buhriz can be difficult to enter since there are only two ways in and out, a road on either side of town But insurgents who know the ter-

rain have many places to hide in the maze of homes and shops. Escape routes run through the acres of surrounding palm

and date groves and across the Diyala River. "I'm pretty excited that we're actually going out and doing something," said Spc. Robert Atchison of Gainesville, Fla. "We're going after the guys who are causing all the havoc.

Special operation soldiers and a group of select Iraqis led the way into town, targeting seven sites — four residents and three shops — suspected of harboring the top suspects and their cohorts

For their role, the soldiers of Battery A look for weapons caches and fleeing suspects on the scores of goat trails running like a maze through the woods

"There's a whole network of trails back here, and they're all well-worn," said Pfc. Keith Peacock of Las Vegas after one foray into the brush

Searching the surrounding areas and city repre-sents a gray area in the current state of security af-

fairs. Howell said. It is too insecure for normal police activity (if a normal police force existed). But in trying to win the peace, rolling tanks through town

isn't the answer.
"Clearing operations don't always yield a lot,"
Howell said. "Sometimes you can make more enemies than you do friends. It also let's people in the neighborhood know—'don't harbor these guys."

until police stations here stop getting mortared" Residents who can't fix anything damaged during a search, Howell said, can bring evidence of the damage along with three repair estimates to the Civil Military Operations Office in nearby Baqouba. If they were innocent of wrongdoing, the victims can be reimbursed cash for the damage.

For all the firepower, it turned out very little was needed. There were no casualties, Howell said, either mil-

six tested positive for traces of explosive compounds on their hands. Neither Saddam Septi nor Dawoud Karim Hanun were captured.

The four hot spots detected by the helicopter turned out to be nothing. The final haul of weaponry was

fairly modest. Several AK-47 automatic rifles with ammunition were found, as well as a homemade rocket launcher, two rocket-propelled grenades and some mortar rounds. Howell said that three improvised explo-

That could be a good sign, he added, indicating that perhaps people there were buying into a future

"Everybody was expecting a little more action, a little more hype," Howell said. "Of course, we're not out of the woods yet. There could be some surpris

kids waved to the passing troops. One person threw a rock that hit a passing Humvee. Most people just stood and watched.

idents of Buhriz the reason for Tuesday's actions.
"We'll tell them, 'This is why we did this,' " How-

F-mail Charlie Coon: coonc@mail.estrines.osd.mi

GIs detain 11 suspected of election-day attacks

BY CHARLIE COON Stars and Stripes

BUHRIZ, Iraq - Soldiers detained 11 people Tuesday as part of Operation Rock Hammer, a search mission Tuesday in Bu-hriz, a city of 60,000 on the outskirts of Baqouba.

"Most of the detainees were directly involved in the attacks on election day in Buhriz," said Capt. Jason Staraitis of Youngstown, Ohio. "There were very big attacks, and this population didn't have a very good turnout for the election." The purpose of the 42nd Infan-

try Division operation, conducted by 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, was to arrest suspects in city attacks and to find weanons and explosives. Detainees were brought to a hollowed-out brick building on the city's edge. 'We search the detainees and

safeguard them in this building," Staraitis said. "In case we take fire, we want to make sure they're Staraitis said the detainees

were found at sites identified as places where insurgents were living or hiding. They were searched and photographed and had hoods put over their heads. Their hands were tied behind their backs as U.S. soldiers stood guard

They eventually would have their thumbprints scanned and would face interrogation by intelligence officers

"We don't want them to see our faces, and we definitely don't want them to know who [the other detainees are]," Staraitis said.
"That way they won't know what the other guy said.

A little loco?

During the perils of war, soldiers sometimes need a steadying presence to help them through times. Chaplain (Capt.) Derek Murray was ready to serve as the conscience of Tuesday's operation.

Murray, of North Berwick, Maine, was present to give reas-surance to the wounded, compassion to the scared, and guidance to soldiers guarding the Iraqi detainees

"I'm sort of the ethical thermometer," Murray said. "For example, God forbid if we ended up fighting in that cemetery over there. It would be a huge ethical and spiritual affront to these people. We would be encroaching on their faith, sort of like if we en-tered one of their mosques."

Murray, who goes unarmed to the opera-tions, said he

likes being

al guv

crazv

battal

ion's "spiritu-

to either be

have a call-

ing to be a

in

"You have



nastor these situa-tions," Mur-"I'm probably a little of both. said.

It's a bird ...

While some solders made their way into downtown Buhriz and searched homes and shops, others worked on the edge of town trying to ensure a safe trip back to base. One tool they used was the Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. or SUAV.

The hand-launched SUAV is a battery-powered aircraft that weighs about 4 pounds. A small propeller powers it through the sky as a video camera in its nose feeds pictures of the ground to soldiers. From the ground, it sounds like a big mosquito flying overhead.

We're flying over the routes back [to the base], searching for anyone planting Froadside bombs], searching rooftops and sniper positions," said Spc. Gary Freis of Tucson, Ariz. "We haven't seen anything yet. They've got the road pretty well protected."

Fries said the SHAV has a ton speed of about 40 mph but a strong headwind can slow it down to about 5 mph. It is designed to fly for up to an hour, crash land and break apart upon impact, then quickly be reassembled for another sortie.



Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment lead a detainee into a holding area. The detainee was apprehended during the battalion's operation Tuesday in Buhriz, Iraq.

Stars and Stripes

warfare: it

miaht make a

guy think

twice about

picking up his

AK-47.77

Capt. Rvan Howell

isn't the answer.

eighborhood know — 'don't harbor these guys.'
"The police couldn't do this back in the States, but

of the 11 detainees, Howell said,

sive devices were found and blown up. that was democratic and non-oppressive

on the way home There weren't. There were just a few glares. Some

The operation would be followed up in coming days with soldiers and interpreters explaining to res-

ell said.

Senator knocks delays in reimbursing Gls

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Defense Department hasn't developed a plan to reimburse soldiers for equipment they've bought to fight in Iraq and Afghanistan despite requirements in a law passed last year, a sen-

In a letter sent Wednesday to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Sen. Christopher J. Dodd, D-Conn., asked for details on the Pentagon's progress setting up the reimbursement program and questioned why it was not in place yet.

"Very simply, this is either negligence on their part, because they were not happy with this when it passed, or it's incompe tence." Dodd told The Associated Press "It's pretty outrageous when you have all their rhetoric about how much we care

about our people in uniform." Pentagon spokeswoman Lt. Col. Ellen

Dodd wants to know why program to pay for war gear not yet in place

Krenke said Wednesday that Rumsfeld will respond to Dodd's letter after he has reviewed it. She had no comment on the progress of reimbursement regulations. The Defense Department provided no further comment Thursday.

Soldiers serving in Iraq and their families have reported buying everything from higher-quality protective gear to armor for their Humvees, medical supplies and even global positioning devices

"There should be no higher priority for our government than ensuring that American troops are well-equipped, particularly those on the front lines of battle in Iraq and Afghanistan." Dodd wrote, "Given their immense sacrifices, as well as the critical contributions of their families and communities, I hereby request that you immediately inform me as to the status of the Department's action to com ply with this statutory requirement.

In response to complaints, Congress last year passed Dodd's amendment requiring the Pentagon to reimburse members of the armed services for the cost of any safety or health equipment that they bought or someone else bought on their behalf.

Under the law, the DOD had until Feb. 25 to develop regulations on the reimburse-

Dodd asked that Rumsfeld provide details on the department's progress. But he

also said it was unclear what recourse he has, other than public embarrassment, to force the department to act.

Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., who repeated-ly decried the lack of equipment during his unsuccessful presidential campaign, said the Pentagon needs to move quickly to give the troops their reimbursement and armored Humvees

"They should be living up to the letter of the law," Kerry said.

The latest emergency spending proposal for the war totals \$81.9 billion, including \$74.9 billion for the Defense Department. It includes \$3.3 billion for extra armor for trucks and other protective gear - underscoring a sensitivity to earlier complaints hy troops.

Stars and Stripes editor Pat Dickson contributed to this report from Washington.

Checkpoint in shooting was set for Negroponte

BY PATRICK OUINN The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - American troops who mistakenly killed an Italian intel ligence agent last week on the road to Baghdad's airport were part of extra security provided by the U.S. Army to protect U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte, an American official said

Italian intelligence agent Nicola Calipari was killed March 4 when U.S. troops opened fire on a car carrying him and Italian journalist Giuliana Sgrena, who had just been freed from insurgents.

"The mobile patrol was there to enhance security because Ambassador Negroponte was expected through," U.S. Embassy spokesman Robert Callahan said, confirming reports in Italian media. The newspaper La Repub-blica reported Wednesday that the checkpoint had been "set up to protect the passage of Ambassador Negrononte

It was not known if Negroponte, who was nominated last month by President Bush to be the new director of national intelligence, had already passed through the checkpoint.

The shooting took place about 8:55 p.m., about two hours before Baghdad's 11 p.m. curfew. No civilian cars are allowed on Baghdad's streets after curfew.

There was no immediate comment in Rome by Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's office or the Foreign

Senior U.S. officials such as the ambassador, who is by far seen as the most important American in Iraq, normally travel by heliconter to avoid roadside bombs and insurgent attacks along the airport road, which are frequent. But U.S. officials in Iraq often vary travel routes and methods so as not to be predictable.

The U.S. Army has launched an in-



In this photo released Tuesday by Italian RAI TG1 national television, network military personnel are seen near a car said to be the one in which Italian journalist Giuliana Sgrena was traveling with Italian operative Nicola Calipari on the way to Baghdad airport when it was fired upon by U.S. troops.

vestigation into the shooting, which has become a point of contention between the United States and Italy

Berlusconi has questioned the U.S. Army's version of events, including a claim that the car was speeding and ignored signals to stop

The Army has acknowledged the checkpoint was temporary but has provided no details about why it was

The day after the March 4 shooting, a spokesman for the 3rd Infantry Division in Baghdad, U.S. Lt. Col. Clifford Kent, said the checkpoint where the shooting occurred had been set up temporarily and wasn't permanent.

Asked at the time about how easy it would be to see American troops at such a checkpoint at night, he said: "Depending on where it is, that could be difficult. But if you're seeing soldiers in military uniform with mili-tary equipment, if you know it's a dangerous area, then ... you need to maintain your awareness

Berlusconi told lawmakers Wednes day that Calipari had informed an Ital-ian liaison officer, waiting at the Baghdad airport along with an American officer, that he was heading there with a freed hostage. He said the car was traveling slowly and stopped immediately when a light was flashed at a checkpoint, before U.S. troops fired

The top U.S. general in Iraq has said he had no indication that Italian officials gave advance notice of the route the Italians' car was taking. In a statement released after the shooting, the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Divi-sion, which controls Baghdad, said the vehicle was speeding and refused

The statement also said a U.S. pa-trol tried to warn a driver with hand and arm signals, by flashing white lights and firing shots in front of the

British intel agents saw little detainee abuse, report says

BY BETH GARDINER

The Associated Press

LONDON - British intelligence agents witnessed fewer than 15 cases of improper treatment of detainees during more than 2,000 interrogations they observed or conducted in Iraq, Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay, a parliamentary committee reported Thursday.

The Intelligence and Security Committee criticized Britain's intelligence services for failing to properly train agents in Geneva Convention rules on prisoner treatment. and described violations that ranged from interviewing hooded detainees to witnessing an American interrogation of a man who had suffered a nervous breakdown.

But the lawmakers said they did not believe there were additional cases of abuse beyond those they reported, and said none of the violations were as severe as the abuse un-

covered at the U.S.-run Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq. In most cases examined, prisoners were in U.S. custody. Some interviews were conducted by British agents, others

The committee said the two interrogations of hooded Iraqi prisoners were the only cases of abuse by British

ing, saving the intelligence workers involved did not know Britain's government had barred the practice. In a number of cases, British agents witnessed improper

treatment of detainees, the report said. In one instance, a British intelligence agent observed an

April 2002 U.S. military interview in Afghanistan of a pris-oner who said he had suffered a nervous breakdown and complained of being held in solitary confinement, the report said.

British agents who visited one unidentified U.S.-operated detention center in Iraq reported that conditions there were "unacceptable" and the treatment of detainees "left much to be desired," the report said.

The British agents were mainly involved with interrogations of British nationals or detainees who might have information about threats to Britain, the report said.

The report only examined the actions of British intelligence agents, not British troops, whose work is monitored by other government agencies and committees.

Three British soldiers were recently convicted at a court martial for abusing Iraqi civilians in the southern city of

Basra in 2003 In a related story, Australian lawmakers voted against holding an inquiry into allegations that the United States sends terror suspects to foreign countries to be tortured

after a heated debate in parliament Thursday. The left-wing Greens Party formally proposed a Senate inquiry following allegations by an Australian released from Guantanamo Bay in January that he had been sent to Egypt to be tortured.



An injured man is taken away after a garbage truck exploded Wednesday near a hotel used by western contractors in central Baghdad. Considering the size of the blast, the 30 American contractors injured in the suicide bombing were lucky to not have died. The blast ripped a hole in the parking lot at least 30 feet across.

Risk to contractors rising

Baghdad bombing highlights dangers of working in Iraq

BY PATRICK QUINN The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A garbage truck loaded with explosives blew up Wednesday next to a Baghdad hotel housing U.S. workers, killing four people and wounding 30 Americans and 10 others in a suicide bombing that highlighted the danger of doing business in Iraq

The U.S. Embassy said four of the wounded American contractors suffered injuries requiring them to be flown to a hospital for treatment. No Americans were killed, it said.

They were lucky given the size of the explosion. The blast ripped a hole in the parking lot at least 30 feet across and more than 10 feet deep, shattering most windows in the Sadeer hotel and rattling buildings hundreds of yards

Al-Qaida in Iraq claimed responsibility in an Internet posting for what it called an attack on the "hotel of the Jews."

"We have fulfilled our vow to take down the Jews and Christians," its military wing said. A posting purportedly from the group's alleged leader, terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, responded on the same Web site that "you have relieved us by killing the enemy of God."

The risk taken by contractors working in Iraq has never been so great. They are regularly targeted by roadside bombs, attacked by insurgents and live in constant fear of kidnap and decanitation.

In a Jan. 30 report to Congress, the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction said at least 232 employees of private contractors had been killed in Iraq while working on U.S. military and reconstruction contracts since the ouster of Saddam Hussein

"Iraq's unsettled security environment continues to present grave risks for contractors and employees," the report said.

Citing Labor Department figures, it said attacks on work sites and contract employees in Iraq averaged 22 a week, and 728 people had made worker compensation claims for missing more than four days of work because of injuThe claims were reported to the Labor Department under the Defense Base Act, which requires all U.S. government contractors to acquire workers' compensation insurance for employees working in Iraq. Officials said the figures would not be updated again until the next quarterly re-

port, in April.

To minimize the risk, contractors live in heavily fortified and bunker-like hotels, often driving in armored vehicles.

Insurgents have responded by devising new ways to get around security and using huge bombs.

On Wednesday, police said, insurgents wearing police uniforms first fatally shot a guard at a gate to the Agriculture Ministry, next to the Sadeer hotel. That allowed the garbage truck to enter the parking lot between the two build-

Other guards fired assault rifles and machine guns in an effort to disable the garbage truck, police said. The truck stopped just inside the gate and then explod-

Pa. university offers 4-year scholarships to troops' survivors

BY SANDRA JONTZ

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Curt Weldon, R-Pa., hopes the actions of one university "will embarrass" other institutions of higher learning into stepping up to support dependents of active-duty forces.

"I hope this will embarrass other schools who talk the good game of supporting our troops but are not stepping up to the plate the way Widener is," Weldon said

Widener University will offer undergraduate scholarships of up to \$100,000 for four years for students of troops killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan, school President James Harris announced Tuesday.

The U.S. death toll from the two operations is more than 1,650.

Until 1972, the 184-year-old university in suburban Philadelphia had been a military academy. Today it maintains a strong ROTC program and offers undergard programs in nursing, engineering, business, education, hotel and restaurant management, and liberal arts with a strong biology program, Harris said. Approximately 6,300 students attend Widner.

An annual \$25,000 payout would cover the \$21,900 tuition and leave money for books and such items. It would not cover room and board. The university will provide up to 16 scholarships at a time, Harris said.

While Widener's program is the only one to offer a full four-year scholarship, about 500 of the nation's 3,300 institutions of higher learning have an-

of higher learning have approached the Pentagon seeking suggestions on programs that would benefit GIs and their families, said Gary Woods, director of Educational Opportunities at the Pentagon's office of Personnel and Readiness.

Back to school

The Department of Veterans Affairs offers an educational and training benefit to spouses and children of U.S. active-duty military personal killed or permanently and totally disabled. The benefit applies to families of Guard and Reserve personnel on active-duty status.

The Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance Program pays \$803 a month for 45 months to spouses and dependent children to pay for education at VA-approved universities, colleges, trade schools or training programs, said Dennis Douglass, the VA's deputy director of education and benefits.

The benefit is available for spouses up to 10 years after the military members is killed or disabled, and up to the age of 26 for dependent children, he said

For additional information visit the Web at: www.gibill.va. gov/education/C35pam.htm, contact your local VA regional Office, or call (888) 442-4551.

- Stars and Stripes

Widener's board of trustees voted unanimously to continue the program for several decades, especially because most children of troops killed today are young. University officials anticipate the bulk of applicants to come in 10 to 12 years, Harris said.

The amount of scholarships could change in the future to reflect inflation or rising tuition costs, he said.

The board also is seeking to raise money to offer additional scholarships, said trustee and retired Army Gen. John Tilelli Jr., a 1963 academy graduate.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Security Council delays review of weapons inspectors in Iraq

By EDITH M. LEDERER
The Associated Press

1110 110000111104 1

UNITED NATIONS — After getting a fresh appeal from Iraq to end the costly work of U.N. weapons inspectors, Security Council members said the time to start examining their future is getting closer.

Chief inspector Demetrius Perricos raised a series of issues that members need to address in considering whether to wrap up the operation of the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission or change its mandate — and he argued that U.N. inspectors could still play an important role, U.N. diplomats said Tuesday.

"What seems clear now is that the idea that the mandate should be revisited is now becoming a reality," Brazil's U.N. Ambassador Ronaldo Mota Sardenberg, the current council president told reporters after a meeting. "So this is a next step for the council."

mains murky.

Sardenberg said it was "very hard" to give a timetable, saying ideally it would be good to wait for a permanent Iraqi government to be elected under a new constitu-

tion, which is expected in December.

Meanwhile, he said, members need to
prepare by addressing the many issues relating to inspections such as verification
and certification that Iraq's weapons pro-

grams have been dismantled.

"This is a complex process that is starting," Sardenberg said.

"It doesn't mean that it will start only by the end of the year. It should start earlier than that"

The Iraqi government has been waging a public campaign to stop using Iraqi oil revenue to finance the commission, known as UNMOVIC, which is responsible for eliminating Iraq's biological, chemical and long-range missile programs. It wants to do the same with the International Atomic Energy Agency, which is responsible for getting rid of its nuclear program.

In a letter to council members ahead of Tuesday's meeting, Iraq's U.N. Ambassador Samir Sumaidaie complained that Iraq's oil revenue is being used to fund two bodies "which have become irrelevant"—at a cost of more than \$12 million annually for UNMOVIC and \$12.3 million in the next two years for the IAEA.

He asked the council to transfer about \$400 million of Iraq's oil money still in U.N. accounts to the country's development fund to be used for reconstruction and to address the immediate needs of the

U.N. inspections were initiated after the 1991 Gulf War in which invading Iraqi forc-

es were ousted from Kuwait. UNMOVIC and IAEA inspectors left Iraq just before the March 2003 U.S.-led war that toppled Saddam Hussein, and the United States has barred them from returning.

But U.S. teams continued the search and in an Oct. 6 report, chief U.S. arms hunted Charles Duelfer said his Iraq Survey Group found no weapons of mass destruction in the country, discrediting President Bush's stated rationale for invadine Irao.

Sumaidaie said the "new Iraq," with its elected government and commitment to peace, has no intention of embarking on any new weapons programs and therefore "cannot possibly represent a source of threat"

But in his briefing to the council, Perricos asked whether the Iraq Survey Group's report was the final word or whether there was scope for an independent assessment of Iraq's disarmament.

'Smart' tails add brains to Aviano bombs

GPS guides squadron's missiles to smaller targets

Stars and Strines

AVIANO AIR BASE Italy -When the 510th Fighter Squadron leaves for Iraq in May, the pilots' F-16s will be equipped with one of the newest weapons available to the Air Force

A new 500-pound satellite-guided bomb, called the Guided Bomb Unit-38, is the smaller version of its 2,000-pound brother, GBU-31, that was used throughout Operation Iraqi Freedom.

While the larger bomb was successful in destroying large targets such as Saddam Hussein's main palace in Baghdad, the GBU-38 allows pilots to take out smaller targets with less risk of collateral damage or civilian casualties. Air Force weapons experts say.

"You can use a 2,000-pound bomb to take out a tank, but it's not good to." said Senior Master Sgt. Steven Laser, superintendent of weapons standardization with the 31st Maintenance Group at Aviano. "We're politically minded killers

The GBU-38 holds 80 percent less explosive than the GBU-31, allowing the Air Force more flexibility in selecting targets during urban combat.

"We could drop in closer proximity to things that we didn't want to blow up," said Maj. John Wilbourne, of the 85th Test and Evaluation Squadron at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, where the bomb scored high marks in recent tests.

The bombs use global positioning satellite technology called Joint Direct Attack Munition or JDAM - to find their targets To make these "smart hombs" the military attaches a new tail to "dumb bombs" that have been used for decades. Inside the tail, a computer reads GPS coordinates and adjusts the tail rudders to move toward the target

So add a \$18,000 high-tech tail to a Vietnam-era MK 82 bomb, and you've got a GBU-38.

The bombs can be programmed with target coordinates before a flight or by pilots in the air.

The GPS-guided bombs are alternatives to laser-guided bombs, which often could not be used in cloudy, foggy or rainy conditions,



To smarten a "dumb bomb," the military attaches a tail, like the one above on a GBU-31, that contains a computer that reads global positioning satelite coordinates to find its target. The kit costs about \$18,000.

The biggest advantage of the new bombs for pilots is that "vou can drop them and forget about them," Laser said. No longer will pilots, or soldiers on the ground, have to keep a laser locked on a target until the explosion, Laser said Or wait for clouds to clear before a strike.

"If you go all-GPS, you can go on any mission no matter the weather," Laser said.

An Alabama Air National Guard unit was the first to use the GBU-38 on Sept. 12, when F-16 Falcons dropped two of the 500-pound bombs on a two-story building in Fallujah, Iraq, where terrorists were thought to be meeting, according to Central Air Forces-Forward. Since then, 84 of the 500-pound bombs have been dropped in Iraq, according to CENTAR

And, in February, the 494th Fighter Squadron out of RAF Lakenheath, England, was the first to drop one in combat from an F-15E Strike Eagle, said Capt. Joseph Siberski, a weapons officer with the squadron.

The Navy dropped its first GBU-38 weeks later, when F-117A Nighthawks unloaded two

of them on another building in Iraq where terrorists were thought to be meeting, according to Naval Air Systems Command. Members of the 555th Fighter

Squadron from Aviano spent the nast month learning to load and drop the GBU-38 with Wilbourne's squadron at Eglin Air Force Base. Pilots in the 510th Fighter Squadron won't have the benefit

of practice, Laser said. But they should have little trouble, he said since the bombs work similar to the larger version.

"Just with less of a bang," Laser said.

E-mail Russ Rizzo at: rizzon@mail.estripes.osd.mil



- Direct Factory Ordering
- Factory Warranty
- Special Military Pricing Over 60 Models in Stock
- Europe Wide Delivery
- Immediate Delivery
- Financing Available

Europe's ONLY Kawasaki Distributor! PRE-ORDER YOUR

MODEL NOW!!

Review ordered of missile defense testing BY BRADLEY GRAHAM The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - The general in charge of the Pentagon's faltering effort to develop a system for defending the United States against a ballistic missile attacks said Wednesday that he has ordered a thorough review of all ground equipment used in testing and appointed a senior Navy officer to oversee future test preparations.

The moves by Air Force Lt. Gen. Henry "Trey" Obering III follow failed attempts in December and February to launch interceptor rockets in tests of the fledgling system. Both failures have been blamed on what defense officials say were minor glitches - a

flawed computer software code in December and a faulty silo retracting arm in February.

In a call with reporters, Obering expressed continued confidence in the system. He said that even without the launch of the rockets. the recent tests scored some successes by demonstrating the system's ability to track target missiles and generate intercept in-

But he acknowledged frustration at the tendency of simple snafus to foil the tests.

"The hard things about missile defense we are accomplishing," Obering said. "The easy

things are what we're having trouble with." The testing setbacks have proven especially disappointing for the Pentagon, which has

been hoping to get into a rhythm of regular flight trials after a two-year hiatus in such ex-periments. The new tests are particularly important because they mark the first attempted flights of the system's interceptor missile, which is designed to fly into space and release a "kill vehicle" that steers into enemy war-

Obering said he hopes to run another intercept test by the end of April. He has created a new post — director of mission readiness - to manage future test preparations. The new post will be filled by Rear Adm. Kathleen Paige, who has led a parallel Pentagon effort to develop a ship-based system for intercepting short- and medium-range ballistic missiles. That program has scored successful intercepts in five out of six tries.

Pentagon blames errant e-mail on 'spoofing'

BY JON R. ANDERSON Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. - Whoops, said the Pentagon, disregard that press release we just sent out from the Islamic civil liberties

Falling victim either to hackers or automated e-mail trawlers, the Pentagon's American Forces Press Service inadvertently distributed a press release Wednesday from the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

"E-mail subscribers of the American Forces Press Service

today received a message, enti-tled 'ISLAM-INFONET: "Hard-ball" Host Withdraws From Controversial FL Event,' from a group not affiliated with the Department of Defense," read an e-mail shortly after the press release was distributed to thousands of subscribers around the

"A processing error resulted in the unintentional distribution of that message," the note ex-

"We have a number of people who try to spoof the system," said an official with the AFPS. "We lit-

erally get a hundred of these a Spoofing is akin to impersonat-

ing - sending an e-mail out pretending to be from a known

He explained that hackers, as well as automated marketing computers, routinely try to break through security measures in place to prevent such abuse. Pentagon Internet guards must sift through each of them separating out hacks from actual official rees before the "send" button is

"In this case," he said, "we had

just migrated to a new computer system and someone hit the

wrong command." A spokesman for CAIR, a Washington-based Muslim advocacy group, said it had nothing to do

with the infiltration. "It wasn't us," said Ibrahim Hooper, "We didn't even know

there was such a list." Regardless, the Pentagon says

it has boosted security. "AFPS has taken steps to guard

against a recurrence," reads the blaster, "and sincerely apologizes for the inconvenience."

ion anderson@strines.osd.mil

Gen.: Weather kept Marines from recruiting

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON - While neither rain, nor snow, nor dark of night keeps the postman away, had weather annarently kent Marine Corns recruiters from their and pointments and routes, said a Marine gen-

The Corps has missed recruiting goals two months running. "It's easy to say it's the war in Iraq, but I'm not so sure," Gen. Jan. C. Huly, deputy commandant for plans, policies and operations, told a gathering of defense writers.

A harsh winter kept potential recruits indoors, and thus recruiters from signing them up.



the calendar year is the hardest time to lure students who are just beginning to think about life beyond high school, Huly said. But the Corps made

a mistake in letting Marines eligible to become recruiters deploy to combat zones instead of the streets

of America, said Huly, who has served as the deputy commanding general for the Marine Corns Recruiting Command

"We didn't have as many recruiters on the streets as we wanted."

The Corps missed its February goal by 192 recruits, and January's goal by 84; the first time goals were missed in 10 years. "Let's just keep in context just how big this alleged iceberg is out there.

The service is adding recruiters over the next two years

Additionally, the Corps is tasked with boosting its end-strength by 3,000 this fiscal year for a total of 178,000 Marines.

Recruiters will not only be looking for the basic infantryman, but for Marines with an aptitude for languages, Huly said. The Army also missed its February re-

cruiting goals. Army leaders have said that the failure is linked in part to public concern over the

wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, fueled by the near-daily reminders of American casu-

To date, 1,664 U.S. troops have died in Iraq and Afghanistan, and more than 10,000 have been wounded.

"People are watching the news," Doug Smith, a spokesman for U.S. Army Recruiting Command at Fort Knox, Kv., said last week. "They know the risks of military service in today's environment.

And the Pentagon's top spokesman, Lawrence Di Rita, said in early March that with a nation at war, parents are using their influence over their children to steer decisions away from military service.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@mail.estripes.osd.mil

WWII vet struggles to get VA benefits

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS The Associated Press SPOKANE, Wash. - Vernon

Baker battled Nazis, then racism in his own country to win the Medal of Honor, Now, at 85, he's battling red tape.

Baker, the only living black Medal of Honor winner from World War II, needed emergency surgery in September to remove a hasehall-sized malignant tumor from his brain.

Healthy for much of his life, the Idaho resident had overlooked the need to enroll for Veterans Affairs and Medicare benefits. When his medical bills arrived. Baker and his wife were surprised to learn the government did not intend to help pay them.

Patients must enroll with the Veterans Administration to rebenefits,

then he can't

aet medical

coverage, No

one should

have to go

through that.

costs incurred before their enrollment, said Rox-Sisemore, spokeswoman for the VA. And Medicare

ceive

coverage kicks in automatically when a person retire ment age, coverage to pay doc-tors' bills also requires enroll-ment said Peter Ashkenaz, a Medi-

care spokesman.

"It kind of makes me feel angry," Baker said in a telephone interview from his home in St. Maries, a town of 2,400 in the forested Idaho Panhandle, about 70 miles southeast of Spokane.

"I'm not able to take care of myself and it hurts me

With the help of Idaho politicians, Baker has started receiv-



World War II veteran Vernon Baker, 85 - with his wife, Heidi - is battling the U.S. government for medical care for a brain tumor. With the help of Idaho politicians. Baker, a Medal of Honor recipient, has started receiving some Veterans Administration and Medicare benefits.

ing some VA and Medicare benefits. And residents of St. Maries are organizing a fund-raiser to for thousands of dollars in medical bills he already owes.

"Someone held up as a hero all over the world, then he can't get medical coverage. No one should

have to go through and cannot be re-imbursed for Marilyn Fletcher, who is organiz-ing the March 19 as a hero all fund-raiser. over the world

Baker earned the Medal of Honor citation for his courage and leadership in the

spring of 1944. Army Lt. Baker had been sent to Italy with the all-black 92nd Infantry. On April 5. Baker and his men

Marilyn Fletcher were behind enemy lines in the hattle for Castle Aghinolfi near Viareggio, accord-

ing to Army records. Their white commanding offic-

er ran when the fighting started. ostensibly to seek reinforcements who never arrived, Baker wrote in his book, "Lasting Valor."

With German fire decimating the Americans, Baker took charge, moving from one machine gun nest to another, killing the enemy soldiers inside. Then he

covered the evacuation of his wounded comrades by taking an exposed position and drawing the enemy's fire, according to Army records.

The next night, Baker voluntarily led an advance on the castle through enemy mine fields and heavy fire

In all, Baker and his platoon killed 26 Germans, destroyed six machine gun nests, two observer posts and four dugouts. Their heroism enabled the Allies to take the castle shortly thereafter. Baker was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, making him the most decorated black soldier in the Mediterranean Theater.

What he didn't know was that his Medal of Honor nomination had been blocked by a military establishment that did not want to give the nation's highest honor to blacks. In 1993, Army officials contracted Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C., to learn if any black soldiers had been improperly de-nied the Medal of Honor. The university recommended 10 soldiers. From that list. Pentagon officials

picked seven. Baker was the only recipient still living and received his award from President Clinton in 1997. Baker stayed in the Army after the war and retired to St. Maries in 1968. Baker is trying not to let the financial woes get him down.

"I'm hanging in there," he said. "Today I feel pretty good."

Remains of Texas GI returning home after missing for 60 years

Pfc. Preston Harris

over there

BY BILL HANNA Knight Ridder Newspapers

FORT WORTH, Texas - A shaving brush

A piece of a comb Part of a boot

A worn set of dog tags. These clues helped unearth a 60-year-old mystery about the

whereabouts of Pfc. Preston "Pug" Harris. In November 1944,

the 23-year-old soldier from Greenville Texas, was part of the 405th Infantry Regiment, 102nd Infantry Division that was fighting along the heavily fortified Siegfried Line near the German-Netherlands bor-

regiment's records state that Harris was killed Nov. 22, 1944, near Beeck, Germany. He was eight

days short of his 24th birthday. Harris was officially listed as killed in action, but the location of his body was unknown. The family was told that he might have been buried in an unmarked grave at a military cemetery in the Netherlands.

His family knew little else.

"One of my other uncles wrote one of the men in Preston's unit who said they were in a field when an 88 [mm] round came in on him and the other guy, and that was it," said Harris' nephew, Knighton Hudson, 50, of Wylie in North Teyas

The first sten toward solving the mystery occurred in June 2003 when a German company that was removing unexploded ordnance from the battlefield uncovered human remains in an unmarked grave

The personal items found in the grave led officials to believe they had discovered a U.S. soldier's remains. The remains were transferred to the Hurtgen War Ceme-

tery and later to the U.S. Army Mortuary Affairs Activity in Landstuhl, Germany.

POW/MIA Accounting Command at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii came to the Reeck area in June, excavated the site and took possession of the remains, Hudson

After examining dental and medical records, the investigators were able to identify

Harris A military representative visited Harris' family in February and returned some of the personal items that

had been recovered. Bob Mason, general manager of Peters Funeral Home in Greenville, said his staff did a double take when they first learned the date of Harris' death.

"It was a very interesting thing when we

started talking about a death that occurred on Nov 22 1944 Mason said.

Harris' military funeral is scheduled for March 12 in Green ville. But the service won't include a ceremonial rifle volley. "My grandmother didn't want that," Hudson said. "She felt like he already had enough shooting

Harris was the youngest of 10 children. The only surviving family member is his 89-year-old sister, Maple Harris Hudson. Knighton Hudson said his mother is still coming to terms with the discovof her brother's remains. "She was kind of in shock," Knighton Hudson said

"She basically figured for the last 60 years that he was buried somewhere over there and then all of the sudden, she finds out he's been found.

"I think more than anything ne was heartened that she was able to fulfill her mother's wishes to bring him home. I really don't think it's hit her vet.

Agent Orange lawsuit by Vietnamese dismissed

Claimed U.S. companies committed 1962-'71 war crimes

BY MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN The Associated Press

NEW YORK - A federal judge Thursday dismissed a lawsuit by some 4 million Vietnamese claiming that U.S. chemical companies committed war crimes by making Agent Orange for use during the Vietnam War

U.S. District Judge Jack B. Weinstein disagreed that allegedly toxic defoliant and similar U.S. herbicides should be considered poisons banned under international rules of war, even though they may have had comparable effects on people and land.

The judge also found that the plaintiffs could not prove that Agent Orange had caused their illnesses, largely because of a lack of large-scale research.

Plaintiffs' lawyers said an appeal was planned.

The lawsuit was the first at-

tempt by Vietnamese plaintiffs to seek compensation for the effects of Agent Orange, which is laden with the highly toxic chemical dioxin and has been linked to cancer, diabetes and birth defects ng Vietnamese soldiers, civilians and American veterans.

U.S. aircraft sprayed more than 21 million gallons of the chemical between 1962 to 1971 in attempts to destroy crops and remove foliage used as cover by communist forces

Lawyers for Monsanto, Dow Chemical and more than a dozen other companies had said they should not be punished for following what they believed to be the orders of the U.S. government.

They also argued that international law generally exempts corporations, as opposed to individuals, from liability for alleged war

"We've said all along that any issues regarding wartime activi-

ties should be resolved by the U.S. and Vietnamese govern-ments," said Dow Chemical spokesman Scot Wheeler, "We believe that defoliants saved lives by protecting allied forces from my ambush and did not create adverse health effects.

The Department of Justice had supported the chemical companies in court, saving a ruling against the firms could cripple the president's power to direct the military

A plaintiffs' lawyer, William Goodman, said the judge made "a clear error" in deciding Agent Orange was not a poison and said an

appeal was planned.
Some 10.000 U.S. war veterans receive medical disability bene-

fits related to Agent Orange. The Vietnamese government has said the United States has a moral responsibility for damage but has never sought compensa-tion for victims.



A police officer looks at a photograph he took of a house in Chicago on Thursday. The house was the last known address of Bart Ross, who is linked to the murders of U.S. District Judge Joan Lefkow's relatives.

Police say suicide note points to Chicago case

BY DON BABWIN The Associated Press

CHICAGO - Police investigating a man who killed himself dur-

ing a traffic stop in Wisconsin found evidence in his van that pointed toward the slayings of a federal judge's husband and mother last week, authorities said Thursday A suicide note indicated U.S.

District Judge Joan Humphrey Lefkow had ruled against the man in a civil case, costing him "his house, his job and family," the Chicago Tribune reported, citing unidentified sources. The legal dispute involved the man's treatment for cancer The man was stopped in West

Allis, Wis., Wednesday because his van had a faulty tail light, West Allis police said Thursday. As officers approached the car, the man killed himself with a gunshot to the head, police said.

West Allis Police Chief Dean Puschnig confirmed that materials found in the car indicated a link to the killings in Chicago, but did not give details or identify the suicide victim. Chicago police identified him as Bart Ross, who is about 57

Authorities said they didn't know why he was in West Allis. Chicago police cordoned off the

street outside Ross' last known ad-Thursday morning, a two-story home across from a high school on a tree-lined street on the city's North Side.

Lefkow found the bodies of her husband, attorney Michael Lefkow, 64, and her mother, Donna Humphrey, 89, on the basement floor of the Lefkow home the evening of Feb. 28. The home also is on the North Side. but in another neighborhood.

The suicide note found in the an in Wisconsin included details in the case that were not released to the public, Tribune Deputy Managing Editor James Warren said in an interview on CNN.

About 300 .22-caliber shells were found in Ross' vehicle, the newspaper reported. Investiga-tors found three casings of the same caliber in the Lefkow home. They also found a list in the van of people who Ross thought had mistreated him, including judges, the newspaper said.

Police have been unable to find any of the man's family, Puschnig

Clinton surgery under way in N.Y.

NEW YORK - Former President Clinton was undergoing surgery Thursday to remove fluid and scar tissue that developed in his left lung after his quadruple heart bypass six months ago. Clinton, 58, arrived at New

York-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center shortly after 5 a.m. for the low-risk operation

His wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, was at the hospital. Earlier in the week, the New York Democrat said she was "very confident about the outcome" of the procedure, which is done through a small incision or video-assist-

ed thoracoscope inserted between the ribs. The former president had been in Flori.

on Wednesday at a charity

golf tourna

ment to benefit tsunami victims. He appeared relaxed, joking about his game and saying he wasn't worried. "I've had an unusual life. If

something happens - if I get struck by lightning on the golf course today — I'd wind up ahead of where 99.99 percent of the people who ever lived did," he said. The scar tissue developed be-

cause of fluid buildup and inflammation, causing compression and collapse of the lower lobe of Clinton's left lung, his office said in a statement earlier this week.

The condition "has caused the

president some discomfort in recent weeks, but he has otherwise been in very good condition," the





Apartment fire kills 11 MARRERO, La. - Flames en-

gulfed an apartment where a family was using candles because their electricity had not yet been turned on, killing 11 people whose exit was blocked when they tried to drag out a burning mattress, authorities said. Four members of the family es-

caned The victims ranged in age from

6 months to 42 years, police said. Their names were not immediately released by police.

The family was using candles for light or heat because they had moved into the anartment the day before and didn't have electricity, Jefferson Parish Sheriff Harry

A mattress caught fire and the family became trapped when they tried to haul it outside, he

From The Associated Press

Delta cuts food, pillows

ATLANTA - Delta Air Lines Inc. is dropping its food-for-sale program, boosting prices on alco-holic beverages and eliminating pillows on many flights as the struggling carrier seeks to improve customer service even as its tries to become more efficient and cut costs.

The nation's third-largest airline announced Wednesday that starting April 3 it will replace its food-for-sale program, which was launched on selected flights in July 2003, with a wider assortment of free snacks in coach class on most domestic and some Latin American and Caribbean flights of more than 90 minutes

Killer of four executed

MICHIGAN CITY, Ind. - A man who spent nearly a quarter century on death row for killing a couple and their two children was executed early Thursday.

Donald Ray Wallace, 47, died by injection at 12:23 a.m. at the Indiana State Prison. He was con victed in 1982 of slaying the Gilligan family - parents Patrick, Theresa, Lisa, 5, and Gregory, 4 - two years earlier during rob-

 two years earlier during robbery at their Evansville home.
 "I hope everyone can find peace with this," Wallace said in a final statement, according to Java Ahmed, a spokeswoman for the Indiana Department of Cor-

Wallace is the 12th person executed by the state of Indiana since the death penalty was reinstated in 1977. A second execution for this year is scheduled on April 21

Taser used in hospital

ORLANDO, Fla. - A police officer kneeled on a drug suspect's chest to restrain him and twice used a Taser stun gun after he refused to provide a urine sample at a hospital, authorities said

Antonio Wheeler, 18, was ar-rested Friday on a drug charge and taken to an emergency room after telling officers he had con-

sumed cocaine, police said.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement is investigating; the officer who used the er Officer Peter Linnenkamp. has been relieved of duty pending the investigation's outcome.

Wheeler faces charges includ-ing possession of cocaine with intent to sell, escape and resisting without violence

Bush coat correction

WASHINGTON -President George H.W. Bush is confessing after 16 years. The raincoat he had an agent give to a rain-drenched elderly woman in a Warsaw town square belonged to the agent, not the president. The woman, one of thousands

of onlookers, was caught unprefor the downpour that marked the president's outdoor speech in the capital in 1989. Alongside her, in the front row, stood a U.S. Secret Service agent, with a raincoat, presumably the president's, folded over his arm.

Bush, standing coatless on the platform under a large umbrella, motioned the agent to give the soaked woman the coat, which she happily accepted.

Reminded of the incident Tues-

day by a reporter who was on the trip to Warsaw, Bush smiled and declared, "Yes, but it was the agent's raincoat.

From The Associated Press

Rather signs off as CBS anchor



Dan Rather anchors his last "CBS Evening News" broadcast Wednesday from the CBS Broadcast Center in New York, Rather began anchoring on March 9, 1981.

BY DAVID BAUDER The Associated Press

NEW YORK - To the end of his career as CBS News anchor, Dan Rather stared down

Rather ended his final broadcast at the "CBS Evening News" on Wednesday with the message he was once ridiculed for offering: "courage

The 73-year-old Texan has covered a breathtaking array of stories in more than 40 years at CBS, from the Kennedy assassination to the recent tsunami, and was the network's most visible face for the past 24 years. He replaced Walter Cronkite on the evening news on March 9, 1981

Bob Schieffer is Rather's temporary replacement starting Thursday. CBS expects to name a permanent anchor team to succeed Rather in the coming months.

He was the second of the three men who dominated network news for more than two decades to step down in four months. NBC's Tom Brokaw exited in November, leaving ABC's Peter Jennings remaining at "World News Tonight

His voice slightly hoarse. Rather was all business for the first 20 minutes of Wednesday's broadcast. He didn't mention the special day, and neither did correspondents John Roberts or Anthony Mason when they threw stories back to him.

Then Rather looked back on what he called the most important story of his career - the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. He opened the news that evening by saying, "You will remember this day as long as you live.

He thanked viewers at the end of Wednesday's newscast, then mentioned Sept. 11 survivors, tsunami survivors, the American military, the oppressed, the sick and fellow jour-

nalists in dangerous places.

"And, to each of you," he said, "courage."

He seemed to savor each word of his si-"For the 'CBS Evening News,' Dan Rather reporting. Good night.'

For a week in September 1986, Rather ended the news with the word "courage. gave it up after being mocked for it, and the incident joined the list of oddities that bedeviled the tightly-wound newsman throughout his ca-

Rather wants most to be remembered as a reporter and, even after 24 years as anchor. never seemed to fully embrace that role.

He said he's not retiring, but changing jobs. He will be a reporter for CBS's "60 Minutes" broadcasts

Counterintelligence goes on the offensive

have been

harmed to act 11

National Counterintelligence

Michelle Van Cleave

executive

BY KATHERINE SHRADER The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The federal vernment suspects more than 2,000 Chinese companies of operating in the United States to steal secrets and wonders whether more than 300,000 Chinese visitors are really here for study and research.

These concerns about who might be swiping U.S. informa-tion extend to several departments — from Defense to Energy to State - and officials say it un derscores the need for pre-emptive action embodied in President Bush's plan for a new, national counterintelligence strategy.

As soon as this month, Bush is expected to direct U.S. intelli-

gence agencies to loss of secrets and technology, a policy consistent with pre-emptive military strategy tion developed in

National Counterintelligence Ex-

2002

ecutive Michelle Van Cleave provided a broad outline of the unclassified strategy the Seven Pillars of U.S. Counterintelligence - at a conference last weekend in Texas. A leading goal is to shift from reactive counterintelligence operations — find-ing spies and other sources of leaks after they've done significant damage — to offensive opera-

"No longer will we wait until we have been harmed to act," Van Cleave said.

Intelligence experts say the task will be difficult, given the espionage threats from China, Russia and other countries, as well as

terrorist groups and other interests determined to penetrate the United States

Government officials say there are counterintelligence successes every day that are never made public. Some cases involve suspected spies who are given "full transactional immunity" for details of their activities - a rare government promise to avoid prosecution in exchange for full disclosure. The individual's career may end, but he or she will avoid jail time.

But some experts say the unfortunate reality is that only one truly major espionage case has ever been unraveled through classic detective work: the case of CIA turncoat Aldrich Ames. He helped devastate

go on the offen-sive to prevent the 44 No longer will we U.S. intelligence operations operations against the Soviwait until we

ets by selling them secrets be tween 1985 and 1994 "It is very rare

for counterintelligence, using analysis and conventional detective work to unearth

spies," said Keith Melton, a historical consultant to the U.S. intelligence community for more than 20 years. "Most spies are detected as a result of defectors or betraval" by others

Richard Haver, a former assis tant defense secretary for intelli-gence, notes that the number of Americans with access to sensitive information is massive

At Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's request during early 2001, Haver tabulated that 11 mil lion people historically had been granted security clearances, either in government or private sec-tor jobs. In 2001, there were 900,000 active clearances.



Lisa Walker, a U.S. Forest Service maintenance worker, uses binoculars Wednesday to view steam as it rises from the crater of Mount St. Helens in Washington State.

Mount St. Helens blast labeled 'small potatoes'

By RACHEL LA CORTE The Associated Press

MOUNT ST. HELENS, Wash, Josh White has rotten timing. The 31-year-old from Astoria, Ore., missed it when Mount St. Helens reawakened in the fall. On Wednesday, the volcano enthusi-

ast rushed to the mountain to get a look at the massive plume that stretched seven miles high the night before. It had been replaced by a wispy cloud.

"It's been twice in a row now that the mountain has blown before I could get up here." White said, camera in hand.

"I do think if it goes big, this is going to be it - but what a way to

For a few minutes Tuesday, it seemed like it could be the big one. Scientists at the U.S. Geologi cal Survey's volcano observatory in Vancouver, Wash., were getting ready to head home when the squiggly line on the computer that tracks seismic activity at Mount St. Helens suddenly

turned a solid black. "It just kept on going and going

and going," said research hydrolo-gist Jon Major, describing the seismic line that registered Tuesday's earthquake measuring a magnitude of 2.0.

The mountain, located some 50 miles away, was belching steam and ash, signaling the most powerful blast since Mount St. Helens awoke last fall

Compared to the eruntion that killed 57 people on May 18, 1980, the plume "is really small potatoes." Major said.

The outpouring began with practically no warning at around

5:25 p.m., about an hour after the 2.0 magnitude quake registered on the east side of the 8,364-foot volcano, said Bill Steele, coordinator of the Pacific Northwest Seismograph Network in Seattle. Scientists will spend the next

few days combing through the hours of data just before the plume to see if they missed any markers. They also intend to gath er ash samples near the crater to study its rock chemistry and to determine if the composition of the magma has become richer in explosive gases.

Jackson arrives over an hour late to court

The Associated Press

SANTA MARIA, Calif. -Michael Jackson arrived more than an hour late to his child molestation trial Thursday to face a judge who threatened to arrest him, but the judge resumed the case without taking any action against the singer in open court.

Superior Court Judge Rodney S. Melville had issued an arrest warrant when Jackson failed to arrive on time, but told defense attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr. ne would hold it for one hour. The judge had also threatened to revoke his \$3 million hail

Mesereau, who told the judge

Judge threatens arrest as singer stops at hospital

Jackson was being treated for a severe back problem, paced out-side court and talked on his cell phone until the singer arrived, a few minutes past the deadline.

Jackson walked in gingerly, dressed in a jacket over pajamas and looked distressed.

The flurry of activity began a day that was already expected to be eventful, with Jackson's accuser returning to the stand to testify about the key allegations against

the singer. Attorneys met with the judge in chambers before court resumed and Melville addressed the jurors, telling them not to draw any negative inferences from the developments

"Mr. Jackson had a medical problem and it was necessary for me to order his appearance, Melville said

The jurors had not been in the courtroom when Jackson failed to arrive at the 8:30 a.m. starting

Mesereau told the judge that Jackson was a hospital "with a serious back problem. He does plan

The judge, obviously angry, declared, "I'm issuing a warrant for his arrest. I'm forfeiting his bail. I will hold the order for one hour. He made the statement between 8:35 a.m. and 8:37 a.m.

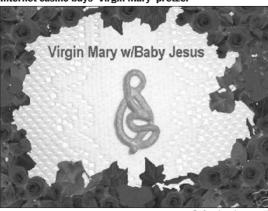
Jackson's spokeswoman, Raymone K. Bain, said outside court that the singer's back "gave out on him" after he woke up and he was rushed to an emergency room around 5:45 a.m.

When Jackson was arraigned in January 2004, the judge admonished him for arriving late and requesting a bathroom break. Las month, during the first week of jury selection, Jackson went to a hospital with flu symptoms, delaythe proceedings for a week But he has been on time or early since then.

On Wednesday, Jackson's voung accuser faced the singer for the first time since leaving the singer's Neverland Ranch March 2003, and described viewing sexually explicit images with the singer in his bedroom

The 15-year-old was not asked about the molestation allegations before court ended Wedn but described viewing adult Internet sites with Jackson and others

Internet casino buys 'Virgin Mary' pretzel



THE GRAND ISLAND INDEPENDENT/A

GoldenPalace.com, an Internet casino, has won in the bidding for a pretzel said to be shaped like the Virgin Mary holding baby Jesus. The sellers. Kent and Machelle Navlor of St. Paul. Neb., sold the pretzel Wedn day on eBay for \$10,600. The Naylor's 12-year-old daughter, Crysta, said she discovered the pretzel while snacking and watching television with her family on Feb. 27. In November, the casino paid \$28,000 for a partially eaten grilled cheese sandwich said to resemble the Virgin Mary.

U.S. Consul issues guides for spring breakers

By LVNN BREZOSKY The Associated Press

MATAMOROS, Mexico - The U.S. Consulate on Wednesday warned spring breakers that they should be safe from the drug vio lence plaguing the border if they don't do "stuff you would not do at home," like urinate in public and aren't on the streets at 2 a.m.

U.S. Consul John Naland said American officials are distributing 10,000 bright yellow fliers at hotels and condominiums around South Padre Island, Texas, upon which college students will descend for spring break and cross the border to enjoy the lower drinking age in Mexico. The fliers will also be sent to border-crossing tour buses.

Naland issued the fliers Wednesday to coincide with the State Department's more sweeping update on foreign travel.

In September 2004, the U.S. consulate issued an advisory for Reynosa, Mexico, across from McAllen, Texas, warning of U.S. tourists and business travelers being shaken down by police. In some cases, the police took tourists to remote ATM machines and ordered them to withdraw money

That advisory was superseded in January by a more strongly worded State Department alert about drug shootings, kidnap-pings, and weak police surveillance along the border. U.S. officials said 27 U.S. citizens had been abducted along the Mexican

side of the border over months. Two had been killed.

The alert sparked an outcry among city leaders on both sides of the border, who said it would cripple the thousands of vendors, restaurateurs, disco owners and

others who rely on tourists With trade spilling back and forth between Matamoros and Brownsville, the mayors of those two cities and of South Padre Island said they would ask the government to tone down the warn-

Naland said someone traveling in a group to a well-known place should be fine

Naland said his latest message was the same for churches that send youths to Mexico on mission trips during Easter break and throughout the summer.

Gangsta rappers end bitter weeklong feud

BY NEKESA MUMBI MOODY

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Perhaps selling 1.1 million copies of his new album in four days has softened the heart of 50 Cent. Or maybe he has so many feuds going, he can afford to let one go.

On Wednesday, 50 Cent and The Game publicly squashed a hitter feud that had erunted into gunfire last week after 50 kicked Game out of his G-Unit clique for

The two platinum-selling gangsta rappers didn't exactly kiss and make up. When they emerged before a media throng at Harlem's famed Schomburg Center for Re-search in Black Culture, both looked as if they'd been shoved into apologies by a stern mother.

But they did shake hands, albeit at the end of the news conference, after speaking about contrition and the need for peace.

50 noted that Wednesday was the anniversary of the unsolved murder of Biggie Smalls in 1997, the culmination of a rap war between Biggie and Tupac Shakur that pitted East Coast against

"We're here today to show that people can rise above the most difficult circumstances and together we can put negativity behind us, said 50, a native New Yorker. "A lot of people don't want to see it happen, but we're responding to the two most important groups. our family and our fans.

"I just want to apologize on behalf of myself and 50," said Game, who's from the Los Angeles suburb of Compton. "I'm almost ashamed to have participated in the things that happened in the last couple of weeks

50 presented an oversized check for \$150,000 to the Boys Choir of Harlem. Game donated \$103,500. It was not clear why Game chose that amount or whether he had been reinstated in G-Unit; no questions were taken at the news conference. The Game also made a contribution to the Compton schools music program.

Is the truce sincere?

"Of course it was genuine," said hip-hop mogul Russell Simmons, who was at the event. 'They stood on stage together.'

At the very least, it was a remarkable concession for rappers who routinely brag about killing their enemies

"It is the first time we've seen 50 publicly take a step back" from a battle, said Elliott Wilson, editor in chief of the hip-hop magazine XXL



Rap artists 50 Cent, left, and The Game hold checks Wednesday during a news conference in Harlem, N.Y. The two rappers, who have been feuding for a week, announced an end to the disagreement and donations to the Boys Choir of Harlem.

STARS STRIPES, LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THOMAS E. KELSCH, Publishe THOMAS RIFRMANN General Manager LT. COL. CYRIL J. SOCHA, Com

News and Editorial

News and coltorial
DAVID MAZARELL Editable Director
DOUG CLAWSON, Managing Editor
DOUG CLAWSON, Managing Editor
ROBS GRIMOSTAFF, Associate Editor
SAM AMBRIELL Lampse Bureau Charl
SOCIT BURKESS, Middle Last Bureau Charl
SOCIT BURKESS, Middle Last Bureau Charl
SOCIT BURKESS, Middle Last Bureau Charl
Office Rivery
Peter Photology, Photo/Coaphics
Staron Office, Irvery
Sam Moores, Sports
Sam Moores, Sports
Sam Moores, Sports

Addresses

U.S. MAIL: Unit 29480. APO AE 09211 INTERNATIONAL MAIL: Postfach 1330 6/3/15 Griecheim

Germany FAX: DSN 349-8416: civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601416

Trac. Ltd. 349-3416; cv. (+49) (0 515/5001415
- MML: News: meeting-limit actings and solid at 161 to 161 to

or e-mail: ombudsman@stripes.osd.mil

How to call us Editor: DSN 349-8237; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601237 Letters: DSN 349-8400; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601403 Sports: DSN 349-8402; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601405 Circulation: DSN 349-8437; civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601437 Advertising: DSN 349-8435/443. civ. (+49) (0) 6155/601335/443.

News Bureaus

GERMANY (country code + 49)

Bamberg: Rick Emert, 279th BSB, Unit 27535, Box 23541, APO AE
09139-7535; tel. DSN 469-7957 or civ. (0) 951/36896; fax DSN 469-8007 or civ. (0) 951/300-8007

463-6607 of the (0) 5313-6607; e-mail: emertr@mail.estripes.osd.mil umholder: Terry Boyd, 222nd BSB, APO AE 09034; tel. DSN 485-6089, or civ. (0) 6783-900776; e-mail:

boydtr@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Darmstadt: Kevin Dougherty, Unit 29480, APO AE 09211; tel. DSN 349-8406 or civ. (0) 6155-601406;

e-mail: doughertyk@mail.estripes.osd.mil; Ward Sanderson, Unit 29480, APO AE 09211; tel DSN 349-8326 or civ. (0) 6155-601326; e-mail: sandersonw@mail.estripes.osd.mil; and 25 or v. (U) 6155-601326, e-mail: sandersonw@mail.estripes.cod.ml; and Jessica higo, Unit 29480, APO AC 09211; tel. DSN 349-8290 or v. (U) 6155-601290; e-mail: migo;@mail.estripes.cod.ml idiothery/Manheim: Room 117, Romerstr. 104, 69115 Heid-berg; tel. DSN 370-7010 or civ. (U) 6221/600554; fax civ. (U) 6221/600554; fax civ. (U)

berg; tel. D 6221/23421

Kaiserslautern/Spangdahlem: APO AE 09227-3717; tel. DSI 489-6585 or civ. (0) 631/52104 or (0) 631/57140; fax civ. (0 631/50696 Stuttgart: Charlie Coon, CMR 423, Box 465, APO AE 09107-0465

tel. DSN 421-2088 or civ. 0711-7292088: e-mail

tat USN 421-4288 or cv. V111-722088, e-mail. coordigmal telepse and all officers of the cv. (9831-467-7001tat cv. (0) 0931-700372, e-mail. Inversigmal testripes and mil Aniano/Viconaza. Kent Harris, tel. DSN (314) 523-7522 or cv. (9) 0934-65-6752, second line DSN (344) 523-7522 or cv. (9) 0934-65-4722; e-mail. harris/di)mail estitypes and mil Maghes: Sandra Journal and Leon Chayle. 795-83 17, Bas S. (F) AE Maghes: Sandra Journal and Leon Chayle. 795-83 17, Bas S. (F) AE

09622; tal. DSN 626-5157 and 626-5158 or civ. (+39) (081; 568-5157 and 568-5158; fax DSN 626-5150 or civ. (+39) (081; 568-5150: e-mail: iontzs@mail.estripes.usd.mil dyj@mail.estripes.osd.mi

SPAIN

Rota: Scott Schonauer, PSC 819, Box 1, FPO AE 09645; tel. DSN 727-1099 or civ. (+34) (956) 82-1099; fax DSN 727-1034 or civ. (+34) (956) 82-1034 e-mail: schonauers@mail.estripes.osd.mil

e-man: scrudial#stsgmanl.ssmpss.pss.mil
VNITED KINGDOM
RAF Mildenhall: Roo Jansen, Building 455 ECSS-UK, RAF Mildenhall,
APO AE 09459; tel. DSN: 238-4888 or civ. (+44) (0)
1638/544868; fax civ. (+44) (0) 1638/718013; e-mail: iensenr@mail.

WASHINGTON D.C.

Bureau editor: Patrick Dickson, 529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301; tel. (+1) (202) 761-0859; e-mail

Washington UC 20045-1931; tel. (+1) (202); 761-0859; e-mail: cikosnn@stipies sod.mil Lisa Burgess, fel civ. (+1) (703) 692-1875; Jon Anderson, tel (+1) (703) 692-1926; and lac Shane, 529 LtM Steret NW, Su 350, Washington DC 20045-1301; tel civ. (+1) (202) 761-1183; fax civ. (+1) (202) 761-0890; e-mail: burgess@stripes.osd.mil; andersom@stripes.osd.mil and shane@stripes.sod.mil;

Printed in Germany by Hurriyet A.S. Zweingniederlassung Deutschland Zweingniederlassung Deutschland Printed in Italy by Editrice Telestampa

Stars and Stripes (USPS 017252) is published daily (except Christma and New Year's) for 50 cents daily and \$1 Sunday by the Stars and Stripe central office, \$25 thit 51. MW, Start \$50. Weshington DC 20045-1301. Periodicals postage paid at Washington, D.C. Postmaster: Send address change to European Stars and Stripes. Unit 22480, APO AE 02211.

© European and Pacific Stars and Stripes 2005

This newspaper is authorized for publication by the Department of De fense for members of the Military Services overseas. However, the contens for minister of the Milling Solicies services. However, the co-tion of the SARSM and STREPS are surplicated, and not the consist-tion of the SARSM and STREPS are surplicated and not the consis-ing the Department of Defense or the U.S. Emposes Command. 4 is 200 and of lacetions where contrasts DOD personned are backful. The appearance of servicing in the publication, including most of the Emposes and Contrast DOD personned are backful. The appearance of servicing in the publication, including most of the appearance of servicing in the publication, including most of the appearance of servicing in the publication, including most of the appearance of servicing in the publication, are represented for the publication, and appearance and the publication are confirmed in the publication and the publication and the publication are confirmed in the publication and the publication and the publication and the publication and the publication are confirmed in the publication and the publication an

STARS AND STRIPES WEB SITE: WWW.STRIPES.COM

Stop the English lessons

It is a sad state of affairs when some officers have nothing better to do than attempt to give English lessons to others via the soldiers' newspaper, Stars and Stripes ("Grade-school errors frequent," letter,

March 3) I, and many like me, couldn't care less what a reflexive pronoun is, let alone what it does. Maybe staff officers allow lower-level commanders to commit signatures to flawed documents, because the lower-level officers do not have time to nit-pick every

grammatical entry on every document they They and we, the noncommissioned officers, have more important details to attend to, such as precombat checks, precombat inspections, battle drills, and keeping soldiers alive in a hostile and unforgiving environ-

ment I, for one, have neither the time nor the inclination to peruse everything I write and, believe me, I write a lot of stuff. I type as I speak, as does most of the civilized world. I believe we could all get a lot more done if everyone would just do their jobs, and quit worrying about what the rest of the world is writing or saving.

Oh, and by the way, the Close Combat Badge should be made available for all soldiers who have gone "outside the wire" in defense of a country in pursuit of democracy, not just a chosen few.

Please excuse any grammatical errors I may have committed

Master Sgt. Jerry Chambers Mosul, Iraq

Americans remembered fondly

From mid-December 2004 to mid-February 2005 the city of Colmar, and surround-ing villages in Alsace, France, celebrated the 60th anniversary of their liberation in World War II My husband Lt Col Timothy R. Stoy, and I were privileged to attend numerous ceremonies, and at each one we were welcomed with respect and affection. The people in this part of France still remember our veterans and think fondly of

the United States. A truly touching moment occurred at an event in Sigolsheim. The French veterans association Rhine-Danube held a ceremony at the American Monument on Hill 351 above the village to honor the Americans who had fought in Alsace with them. There is a French military cemetery there now, but in December 1944 the hill was the scene of ferocious fighting for both the 36th and 3rd Infantry divisions. My husband laid a wreath with the two American veterans present and delivered the keynote speech It was a bitterly cold day with a biting wind. almost like the weather 60 years before.

At the reception after the ceremony, as my husband was mingling with the veterans, one of them, Mr. Cade, came up to him and pressed a small medallion with Wash ington and Lafayette depicted on the front into his hand. He explained that this medallion had been given to his father in 1917 by the Americans upon their arrival in France husband to have it as a symbol of the con-

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

Send your letters to:

U.S. Mail: International mail: Stars and Stripes Stars and Stripes Unit 29480 Postfach 1330 APO AF 09211 64345 Griesheim

Via fax: [Country code +49] (0) 6155/601395; DSN 349-8395

E-mail: letters@mail.estripes.osd.mil

tinuing friendship between the people of France and the United States. It was such a

touching moment. I would like Stripes readers to know that there are still many people in France who remember the United States fondly and still

like Americans. Army Capt. Monika C.Y. Stoy (retired) Halstenbek, Germany

Diversity of opinion appreciated

I am writing in regards to the complaint about Garry Trudeau's "Doonesbury" comic strip (letter, "Trudeau strip a 'piece of crap," Feb. 28).

While I found the letter writer's comments nearly as entertaining as I find Trudeau's comic strip, it was still a bit disturbing to read such comments. The letter writer's anger toward Stars and Stripes for publishing the "left-wing-subcutanepublishing ous-slandering piece-of-crap" comic is misdirected.

I applaud Stripes for publishing comics, features, articles and opinion pieces that illustrate different points of view. The U.S military is made up of people from all walks of political and cultural life.

For many people stationed overseas, Stars and Stripes is one of their few sources of news and information. I am sure the letter writer can appreciate diversity of opinion and freedom of press in a place like Iraq. The exchange of ideas and public discourse is critical to a democracy

Those who are asked to defend it deserve a forum to read various points of view.

Staff Sgt. Gregory Bumgardner Ramadi, Iraa

'Doonesbury' a 'counterweight'

This is in response to Col. John Crook's Feb. 28 letter ("Trudeau strip a 'piece of crap'") denouncing the "Doonesbury" comic strip as a left-wing "piece of crap." "Doonesbury" — whatever its faults — is a decades-old, highly regarded, Pulitzer Prize-winning work of political satire.

In Stars and Stripes it stands as a counterweight to the frequently mean-spirited and simplistic right-wing diatribe that characterizes the upstart "Mallard Fillmore" strip on the adjoining page. Put the two of them together and, guess what, you have freedom of speech and diversity of opinion. Isn't that what the opinion pages of a newspaper are supposed to encourage?

Nicholas Stigliani Okinawa

'Doonesbury' has its place

Respectfully, Col. John Crook ("Trudeau strip a 'piece of crap,' "letter, Feb. 28): As an American, I am glad our "newspaper" of the armed services includes "that left-wing-subcutaneous-slandering piece-of-crap comic." What path would we

be walking down if we removed everything that didn't agree with us?

I also am irritated when "Doonesbury"

gleefully attacks the Republican Party and ignores Democratic Party foibles, but that is why the comic is in the Letters to the Editor section instead of the comics. Really though, should we pull "Foxtrot" because it may teach our children to be sassy? How about "Beetle Bailey"?

Master Sgt. Robert Tebben Seoul, South Korea

Strip amuses other readers

After reading the Feb. 28 letter "Trudeau strip a 'piece of crap,' " all I can say is: "Wow." I wanted to say more, but the presence of polite company made me refrain.

Apparently the "gentleman" who penned

it doesn't quite get that "Doonesbury" and its opposite-page counterpart, "Mallard Fill-more," aren't there for his amusement. They're placed on the page for mine. Because I have a sense of humor, and only half as inflated an ego. Also, notice if you will, my use of quota-

tion marks around the word "gentleman" so that people can tell I'm being sarcastic, as was the letter writer with "newspaper Aren't I clever? No? Staff Sgt. Louis Stutz

Camp Foster, Okinawa

Seek inner strength at front

To U.S. servicemembers serving in war zones: As the day passes by, your heart feels heavy, and you work hard to do the job right. Focus on the personal glory you will receive in the end.

When the chore seems taxing, don't give up! The dawn is just around the bend. Seek ner strength with every fiber of your heing. When the war seems never ending and

you feel that you need a release from all that's occurring around you, hold on. Just reach out to a colleague, and pray together for immediate peace.

for immediate peace.

Most of all, when you feel in despair and lonely, and you feel like giving up hope, concentrate on your friends and family back home. We are all standing by your side, while whispering and shouting to the heavens for you to come back home alive, where humble and safe arms lie.

So remember, do what you will to make the mission successful. Then, when your tour is done, sing with praise and come home to loving arms. Ta'Sha Y. Brown

New York

By GARRY TRUDEAU

Doonesbury







OPINION

Merger mania: Size is the law of the jungle

hen elephants dance. grass gets trampled."

That African proverb could be an American business saying, too. Corporate giants are prowling

again, hungry for acquisitions. Will they trample the folks at the grass roots? The biggest retailers are getting bigger. Federated (owner of icons such as Macy's and Bloomingdale's) is buying May Department Stores (Lord & Taylor, Filene's and others). CVS expanded its already-large chain by buying Eck-

"As retailers swallow, manufacturers follow" - to coin a new business proverb. Giant distributors provoke suppliers to merge.

Gillette executives cite the need for clout with gargantuan Wal-Mart as the reason for selling Gillette to Procter & Gamble.

Size is the law of the jungle. Banks continue to consolidate; Citizens Bank CEO Larry Fish predicts that six big banks will soon dominate the U.S. market Media conglomerates own local broadcasters and newspapers. Telecommunications is shaking down to just a few giants, as SBC acquires AT&T, Verizon and Qwest vie to buy MCI.

This merger surge derives from more than a herd mentality or ambition to be king of the jungle. It reflects a long-term economic power shift from production to distribution. Companies with large distribution networks dictate terms to their suppliers and control the flow of goods and services to consum-

Long-term economic logic might favor this process, but in the short term, much grass gets crushed.

Let's start with consumers, whose purchases fill company cof-

Consumers hate mergers, Business Week asserted in December. That's not surprising. In service industries, a change in company ownership potentially inconveniences each individual user of a bank account, e-mail domain, cell phone line, long-distance plan or discount card - not to mention losing neighborhood facilities. While waiting for services to improve, consum-ers bear the costs of confusion and upgrades they might not want

Another grass-roots worry is ris-ing prices if competition decreases. At a House Energy and Commerce Committee hearing last week, U.S. Rep. Edward Markey. D-Mass., asked six telecom CEOs in three potential mega-mergers to guarantee not to raise post-acquisition prices. No

The work force isn't happy either. A Conference Board report on falling U.S. job satisfaction finds widespread discontent across ages and incomes. Half of Americans surveyed say

they're satisfied with their jobs, down from nearly 60 percent in 1995: only 14 percent feel very satisfied. In a related study, 40 nercent feel disconnected from their employers, 25 percent are just "showing up to collect a pay-check." Mergers add uncertainty and anxiety that depress satisfac-

Some laid-off employees pray for work, others decide to worship something bigger than business. After merger-related layoffs in a high-tech corridor, church attendance increased.

Community leaders deplore acquisitions that remove a local headquarters. My research shows that companies contribute more money and leadership in their home office city. A division owned by a giant elsewhere doesn't have the same check-writing ability. Local nonprofits find corporate support shrinking — unless they, too, exnand their networks across cities to match giants' national reach

Personally, I don't hate all mergers. I just hate the way most are managed. Attention focuses on making the deal, not on what happens afterward.

Some mergers do bring instant improvements. CVS enhanced pharmacies at former Eckerd stores. Shinhan Financial Group in South Korea raised wages for workers in an acquired bank. Others create funds to maintain local community support for several years This shows what's possible.



Opposition to mergers by local politicians is often misguided and futile. But if concerned citizens can't trip the elephant, they don't have to let grass grow under their feet either

Consumers can make noise at the first announcements and vote with their wallets. Workers can keep skills fresh and an eye on starting their own business. Voters can insist on better programs to heln with transitions and attract new jobs. Local nonprofits can develop innovations valuable outside their community. Communities can encourage leadership from those more deeply planted than big companies: entrepreneurs (in cluding women) and professional sectors such as education and

We know what kinds of beasts the elephants are. That makes it even more important to cultivate trample-proof grass.

Rosabeth Moss Kanter is a Harvard Business School professor and author of "Confidence." She wrote this for The Miami Herald.

Brusque Bolton now will set tone for U.S. at U.N.

BY SUSAN E. RICE resident Bush has shocked even his most cynical critics by nominating the combative neoconservative John Bolton to one of our most complex and sensitive diplomatic posts: U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. Bolton served the past four years as undersecretary of state for arms control and international se curity, though then-Secretary of State Colin Powell initially resisted his appointment.

Condoleezza Rice, who passed over Bolton for deputy secretary despite strong supnort for him from Vice President Dick Cheney, put on a brave face Monday in announcing his appointment. She stressed the administration's commitment to U.N. reform and praised Bolton as a friend of the United Nations who helped repeal the noxious General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism. But as Rice must know, keeping Bolton off her team at State may prove a Pyrrhic victory, if he takes his notoriously abrasive style to New York.

The job of U.N. ambassador is always important and delicate, but arguably never more so than now. The United Nations is facing unprecedented, justified criticism for its role in the oil-for-food scandal and its failure to prevent peacekeepers from sexually exploiting civilians in Congo. Several Republican members of Congress are gunning for Secretary-General Kofi Annan's head. In response, Annan is shaking up his management team and reminding the United States how badly it needs the United Nations.

Indeed, the United States is relying on the United Nations to carry out a massive tsunami-recovery effort and 17 peacekeeping missions, to support the democratization processes in Afghanistan and Iraq, and to pressure Iran to halt its nuclear program. At the

60th anniversary of its founding, the United Nations has rarely been more relevant or in greater need of reform.

Is John Bolton the right man? Having served as assistant secretary of state for international organization affairs from 1989 to 1993, Bolton may be deemed qualified, but his record on multilateral issues is alarming He told The Wall Street Journal that "the happiest moment of his government service" was when the Bush administration renounced the treaty on the International Criminal Court. Bolton led the administration's withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, scuttled an important biological weapons protocol and weakened an international agreement to limit small-arms trafficking. On these issues, Bolton's positions at least reflected administration policy But Bolton holds many strong views that

diverge sharply from current U.S. policy. He described the United Nations as "a great, rusting hulk of a bureaucratic superstructure ... dealing with issues from the ridicu-lous to the sublime." More important, he maintains that the United States has no legal obligation to pay its U.N. dues

Once a paid consultant to the Taiwanese government, Bolton favors Taiwan's inde-pendence and its full U.N. membership — a dangerous position in light of cross-straits tensions and our efforts to obtain Chinese pressure on North Korea. Will Bolton set aside his support for a Taiwanese U.N. seat while manning the U.S. seat on the Security Council? Bolton has testified against U.N. involve-

ment in Congo, an interstate conflict that has cost 3 million lives. He blasted the United Nations' concept of operations for its Ethiopia-Eritrea effort and rejected U.N. civil administration missions in Kosovo and East Timor. Will Bolton undergo such a conversion on the road to First Avenue that he can effectively support U.N. peace operations?

Finally, Bolton criticized any " 'right of hu-

manitarian intervention' to justify military operations to prevent ethnic cleansing or po-tential genocide." One must wonder how forcefully he will work to halt what the ad-

ministration deems genocide in Darfur. Rice asserts that Bolton will be an outspoken, effective U.N. ambassador in the vein of Jeane Kirkpatrick and Daniel Patrick Moynihan. ... Those of us who believe the United States needs an effective, reformed United Nations can only hope he succeeds.

Susan E. Rice is a senior fellow in foreign policy studies at the Brookings Institution. She was assistant secretary of state from 1997 to 2001. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

Mallard Fillmore



Pakistan knew of scientist's nuclear deals

Official says Khan sold centrifuge system to Iran, insists Pakistan not involved

BY PAUL HAVEN

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — After years of denials, Pakistan admitted on Thursday that its top nuclear scientist sold centrifuges to Iran, though it stuck by its claim it knew nothing of his activities, and insisted he will not be turned over to another coun-



Ahmed an Iranian or Pakistani official has acknowledged publicly
that he sold Tehran
centrifuges, a crucial
component needed to enrich the uranium

that can be used in nuclear warheads.
"Dr. Abdul Qadeer gave some centrifuges to Iran," the minister, Sheikh Rashid
Ahmed, told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "He helped Iran in his
personal capacity, and the Pakistan government had nothing to do with it."

Ahmed originally made the comments at a seminar in Islamabad organized by a local newspaper group, in which he stuck by Pakistan's insistence that Khan would never be handed over to a third country for prosecution. The disgraced scientist is still

Iran promises 'nightmare' if attacked

BY SAMIR KRILIC

The Associated Press

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Iran's foreign minister has told a Bosnian newspaper that if Washington decides to attack Iran it will be a nightmare for the United States

"If America decides to attack Iran, they will make a big mistake. It will be a nightmare for them," Kamal Kharrazi was quoted as saying in an interview published Thursday in the Nezavisne Novine

Kharrazi is part of an Iranian delegation led by President Mohammad Khatami which was to conclude a three-day visit to Bosnia on Thursday.

U.S. officials have issued increasingly sharp warnings about what they say are Iran's efforts to build nuclear weapons. Tehran has said its nuclear program is intended purely for civilian purposes.

President Bush has labeled Iran "the world's primary state sponsor of terror."

considered a hero in Pakistan for nearly

single-handedly securing Pakistan an

should tell the people about these sensitive

matters," Ahmed said in a speech at the

seminar, an audio tape of which was also

obtained by AP. "I am not a spokesman for

"I support the idea that the government

atomic bomb to counter rival India

Last month, he called suggestions that the United States is preparing to attack Iran "simply ridiculous," but quickly added that "all options are on the table." Disputes between Iran and the United States "have a long history," Kharrazi

was quoted as telling the Banja Luka-based daily. "During our conflict with Iraq, the U.S. took the side of our enemies. There are also many other problems." Kharrazi

asso many other problems, Kharrazi was quoted as saying. He said talk of American military intervention in Iran was "political pressure." "The United States does not want to un-

"The United States does not want to understand that Iran is an important player in global relations. Iran is democratic and has a positive role in promoting peace and security in the world," Kharrazi was quoted as saying.

At the end of the interview Kharrazi said that unlike Iraq, Iran is "a united nation and a strong government."

"If they [the United States] attack us, I think, it will above all be a nightmare for them," Kharrazi was quoted as saying.

a cowardly nation. Yes, we supplied Iran the centrifuge system. Yes, Dr. Qadeer gave Iran this technology. But we are not going to hand over Dr. Qadeer to anyone. We will not."

Ahmed later told AP that Islamabad is fully cooperating with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the world's nuclear watchdog, which is investigating whether Khan sold technology to Iran, Libya, North Korea and other countries.

There was no immediate reaction from Washington to Ahmed's comments. President Bush has urged world leaders to stand united in stopping Tehran from obtaining nuclear technology.

Pakistan is a key ally in the war on terror. American officials acknowledge privately, however, that Washington is frustrated by Islamabad's refusal to allow Khan to be directly questioned by American agents.

President Gen. Pervez Musharraf pardoned the disgraced scientist last year and allowed him to keep the riches he allegedly earned from the trade. However, Khan remains restricted to his home in an upscale neighborhood of the Pakistani capital.

The government has steadfastly denied any official involvement in the proliferation, despite reports Khan flew to North Korea on a government plane. Musharraf — a general who seized power in a 1999 coup — held senior positions in the Pakistani armed forces for much of the time that Khan's alleged nuclear dealings took place.

As the main supplier of centrifuges, parts and related technology, the Khan network has figured prominently in those investigations. Diplomats close to the agency say that in confidential discussions with IAEA experts, both Pakistan and Iran itself have acknowledged that Khan sold Tehran centrifuges, although neither country had previously publicly said so.

Spanish cope with bombing on anniversary

The Associated Press

MADRID, Spain — One year ago on a Madrid commuter train, 10 backpack bombs allegedly planted by Muslim extremists blew up, killing 191 people and wounding more than 1,500.

On Thursday, Spain's Parliament observed five minutes of silence — broken only by the mournful strains of a cello playing Bach's Sarabande Suite No. 2 — in memory of victims of the bombings as Spain prepared to mark the massacre's first anniversary. Lawmakers at the Congress of

Deputies stood grim-faced by their seats in a prelude to a series of memorial acts scheduled for Friday.

"It was a direct blow at our life in peace and freedom," the legislature said in a statement. Fewer than half the injured

have come to terms with their tragedy and moved on with their lives, said Marisa Perles, a psychologist who works closely with the victims. The rest just relive their brush with death.

"The first year the pain is extremely intense," Perles said.



coffins of relatives during a mass burial Thursday in San Jose, Philippines. Sobbing parents prepared for a mass burial Thursday of 27 elementary schoolchildren who died after eating a snack of cassava, a root that's poisonous if not prepared correctiv.

Residents carry

Filipinos mourn poisoned children

By Teresa Cerojano

The Associated Press

MABINI, Philippines — Weeping relatives watched as the coffins of some of the 27 schoolchildren who died after eating improperly prepared cassava root were lined up for burial at a Roman Catholic chapel in the central Philippines.

Overcome with grief, Lorenza Asas, mother of 7-year-old Sherwin Asas, stomped her feet on the floor. "I can't accept that my son is dead," she said, as her relatives tried to calm her.

The victims, most ages 7-13, bought the deep-fried caramelized cassava from vendors during snack time at the San Jose school in Mabini town on the central Philippine island of Bohol.

Another 103 people were hospitalized with severe stomach pains and diarrhea.

Starchy cassava roots, while rich in protein, minerals and vitamins, are poisonous without proper preparation. The human digestive system can convert part of them into cyanide if they are

At a foothill cemetery, parents, residents and officials watched 12 coffins placed into side-by-side concrete niches.

"Maybe everyone here is still in shock," Mayor Stephan Rances said with tears in his eyes as workers nailed the coffins shut before sealing the niches with cement.

sealing the inches with cerient. Relatives wept nearby.
Anicita Luyong, 33, grieved over the coffin of her 7-year-old son, Wilfredo Luyong Jr., in her house near the school.

She said the boy, who had wanted to be a soldier, came home crying with severe abdominal pain. He was taken to a hospital but did not survive.

One of the two vendors was

also ill and still hospitalized Thursday, while the other was in police custody to protect her from outraged parents, said the town mayor's aide, Philip Fuderanan. Authorities have not ruled out criminal charres against the ven-

dors

Americans on high alert RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — U.S.

citizens living in a residential compound in western Saudi Arabia have been put on high alert after the American Embassy issued an increased threat level warning, officials said Thursday.

The warning singled out the Sierra Village, on the outskirts of Jiddah, where tensions remain high following a Dec. 6 attack on the U.S. consulate by Islamic militarts.

A Sierra Village employee said the warning was issued Tuesday following an altercation a day earlier between security guards and youths in a car parked nearby.

Protests in France

PARIS — Planes, trains and metros were canceled, and posts workers and teachers stayed home in a nationwide day of defiance Thursday against government economic policies — notably plans to let the French work longer hours.

The strikes coincided with a visit by Olympic inspectors assessing the French capital's bid to host the 2012 Summer Games.

Tens of thousands of protesters marched through Paris, answering the call of unions for a massive turnout to defend France's 35-hour workweek and to push for more jobs and salary talks.

From The Associated Press

We have you covered!



Equip yourself with a brand new SAAB Convertible!

Pentagon Car Sales

GERMANY

KAISERSLAUTERN

Kaiserstrasse 1 67661 Kaiserslautern Tel: 0631 351 900

HEIDELBERG

Hebelstrasse 3 69115 Heidelberg Tel: 06221 144 911

MANNHEIM

Waldeckweg 3 68309 Mannheim Tel: 0621 724 6901

WIESBADEN / MAINZ

Ludwig-Wolker-Str. 14 55252 Mainz-Kastel Tel: 06134 567 800

... ITALY

Via Pordenone 48D Aviano (PN) 33081 Tel: 0434 676 613/4

VICENZA

Viale Della Pace 254B Vicenza (VI) 36100 Tel: 0444 305 888

NAPLES

Via Eduardo Scarfoglio, 7/f 80125 Naples Tel: 081 762 3868

SIGONELLA

c/o Hotel Sigonella Inn Suite 101/102 opposite NAS 1 95040 Motta S. Anastasia (CT) Tel: 095 713 0410

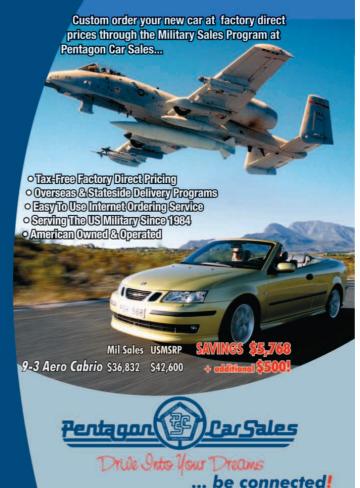
LA MADDALENA

Piazza Bambin Gesu' 11 07024 La Maddalena (SS) Tel: 0789 723 026

...SPAIN

ROTA

Plaza Del Triunfo 6 11520 Rote (Cadiz) Tel: 956 841 678



PAGE 16 · Stars and Strip

Sin tax proposed

MO JEFFERSON CITY
—In the eyes of one
Missouri legislator, the
Show-Me State needs to
tone down its image — as
far as the adult entertainment industry is concerned.
"Travelers in our state

are being sent a signal that Missouri is a porm-friendly state," said State Sen. Matt Bartle. To combat that, Bartle has sponsored a mea-

sure for a sin tax.

The proposal cleared the state
Senate with little debate. The legislation needs another vote to move

to the House.

Under the bill, tipping strippers would be illegal, as would any physical contact between exotic dancers and their customers. Total nudity would be banned, and no one under 21 could work in such busi-

nesses.

The legislation also would impose a \$5 per customer charge for sexually oriented businesses, from strip clubs to adult bookstores, and a 20 percent tax on revenues. The provisions are similar to what casinos in the state already must pay.

Bartle, a Republican, said the restrictions and taxes are necessary to combat problems such as prostitution, juvenile delinquency and declining property values.

High school to be closed

DC WASHINGTON — Cardozo High School will be closed again because of the third mercury spill since Feb. 23. Cardozo students will be bused to the University of the District of Columbia to attend classes. The most recent mercury spill turned up last weekend. Officials said cleaning up the latest spill will take between three and five days.

Employees to get bonuses

ME FREEPORT — About 4,700 LL. Bean employees will receive bonuses totaling 12.5 percent of their annual base salaries after the company announced record sales of \$1.4 billion for fiscal 2004. An additional \$5.600 seasonal workers will get \$150 bonus-

The privately held Bean said sales increased 9 percent from 2003.

Shark kills tank mate

CA MONTEREY — The Monterey Aquarium's popular great white shark is now a killer, having taken down one of its Outer Bay tank-mates two weeks ago and inflicting a 5-inch gash in the tail of another soupfin shark this week.

But aquarium officials believe the 88-pound, well-fed white shark wasn't hunting its neighbors only reflexively chomping when it was startled by an accidental collision with the slower-swimming sharks.

There are no plans to move the female great white, although officials may relocate two remaining soupfin sharks to avoid potential clashes in the million-gallon tank. "The white shark and the soup-

crastics in the minon-gainoit native "The white shark and the soupfins are tending to sort of run into one another," said Randy Kochevar, science communication manager for the aquarium. "You have two animals trying to occupy the same space with some unfortunate consequences."

The newest attack and the death

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

of a similar shark Feb. 23 — which was found with a two-foot chunk of its tail missing — occurred before the aquarium opened for visitors, whose numbers have jumped 30 percent since the great white shark arrived in September after it was accidentally netted by fisherman in Southern California.

Toddler survives alone

HOUSTON — A 2-year-old boy survived for up to two days on pancake syrup and onions after his caretaker died in their home, police said.

The boy was found after a relative of Gladie Mae Johnson, 64, became concerned because she hadn't heard from her.

When the relative knocked on the door of Johnson's home, she heard knocking back from inside. She entered through an unlocked back door and found the boy and Johnson's body.

Johnson's body.
Johnson was last seen alive on
Friday, Houston Police Department Sgt. Paul Motard said. She apparently died of natural causes.

Investigators found an open and nearly empty container of pancake syrup on the floor. Some onions also were found lying near Johnson's body.

Johnson was a friend of the boy's family and had been caring for him since last year, when his mother went to prison, Child Protective Services spokeswoman Estella Olguin said.

Manatees found dead

FL NAPLES — At least 16 West Indian manatees have died in southwest Florida, apparently from a red tide outbreak that's



Disappearing act Vehicles cross the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco in fog.

drifted offshore for several weeks.

So far, this episode hasn't escalated to the level of major red tide mortality events in recent years. During a particularly bad outbreak in 1996, more than 150 manatees died from the toxic bloom.

The year 2003 saw nearly 100 mortalities that were blamed on red tide.

State biologist Andy Garrett, however, said this latest event looks familiar.

"The pace we're on right now would be on pace with some of the bigger events," Garrett said. "Having several animals picked up over the course of a few days is similar to the bigger events."

Red tide is a naturally occurring toxin that's fed by nutrients.

Large blooms occur regularly off the southwest Florida coast and can cause widespread deaths of marine creatures and respiratory problems in humans.

Garrett said the number of calls from boaters reporting dead manatees has ebbed since the weekend. Rainy and chilly weather probably kept many boaters off the water lately, Garrett said.

Red tide typically forms offshore and gets tossed around the Gulf of Mexico by currents and steering winds. Winter winds typically prevail from the east. Onshore breezes and winter fronts, however, can send the toxic outbreaks inshore.

Gorilla dies at Erie

PA ERIE — A gorilla believed to be the longest living of its kind in captivity has died of old age. He was 49.

Rudy died in his sleep at the Erie Zoo, said zoo spokesman Scott Mitchell

Captive gorillas can begin to have health problems in their late 20s to early 30s, Mitchell said. Rudy's appetite had been declining recently, he said.

Rudy was captured in Africa as a baby. He arrived at the Erie Zoo in 1987 after living at zoos in St. Louis, Los Angeles and Cleveland.

Rudy was believed by the International Species Information System, which keeps records on captive animals, to be the oldest captive lowland gorilla in the world.

Deputy suspended

MN BEMIDJI — An off-duty sheriff's deputy who used a cell phone to make audiovisual recordings of three men having sex with an 18-year-old woman at a party will be suspended for two weeks without pay and reassigned, an official said.

An investigation of the Sept. 19 incident found that Beltrami County deputy Jeffrey Andersen engaged in "conduct unbecoming an officer," Sheriff Keith Winger said.

Three men were charged with felony criminal sexual conduct after the woman told police that they gang-raped her. She said one of them gave her a drink that rendered her semiconscious.

Andersen, 25, was suspended with pay after he admitted using a cell phone to record the incident.

A special prosecutor dismissed the rape charges in December, saying that there wasn't evidence of a date-rape drug. The same prosecutor declined to bring charges against Andersen, saying his conduct couldn't be proven criminal.



White-out results in pileup A white-out created by a caused a multi-whicle pileup on U.S. 131 near Grand Rapids, Mich. A sudden snow squall caused a series of chain-reaction accidents involving 85 to 90 whicles on a western Michigan highway that killed one motorist and injured at least 34 others, nolice said.



Taking a break

Patrick Alfred, left, and Jim Bell paddle their canoe across Kirby Lake in Abilene, Texas. The two high school juniors were enjoying the sunshine during their sprine break



All the world's a snowflake

Mike Whitney, 19, of Auburn, Maine, walks past a snowflake design on the front of a downtown business in Lewiston. Maine



A blanket of gold Sightseers walk through a field of wildflowers in Death Valley, Calif. Heavy winter rains have led to an explosion of wildflowers throughout the usually barren landscape.



Willing to Work

Jim White, left, and Andrew Boney
carry snow shovels while walking
along Route 229 in Bristol, Conn.
They were looking for a way to make
a few bucks off the snow storm.



What a mess! Workers look over the scene of a derailment in Industry, Calif. The freight train derailed spilling a combustible liquid and prompting the evacuation of 11 businesses from a nearby strip mall, authorities said. No injuries were reported.

Tread gives up crooks

AR FORT SMITH — Police in Fort Smith got to the bottom of a burglary at city offices by peering into the criminal sole.

Apparently, footprints left by the burglars came from shoes popular with skateboarders. Officers discovered that only one store in Fort Smith sold the shoes, and the shoe with the unique tread was sold to only a handful of customers.

That led police to Christopher Calvin and Eric Skelton, both 23.

The men were arrested last week on suspicion of commercial burglary and theft of property. The duo work together at a mall restaurant near the store that sold the shoes.

City officials said about \$3,000 worth of computers and other equipment was taken.

According to authorities, the burglars apparently climbed atop a vacant building, worked their way to the ledge along the third floor of another building that housed city offices and entered through an unlocked window.

First female president

IM NEW ORLEANS — Marvalcen thughes has been chocen as sufficient for the control of the control
cent as included the control
cent for the control of the control
cent of Dillard, a private, predominantly black school associated
with the United Church of Christ.
Hughes has been president at California State University' Stanislaus
campus since 1994.

License-revoking review

MN ST. PAUL — The Minnesota Supreme Court is considering the constitutionality of a law allowing authorities to revoke the driver's licenses of people suspected of driving drunk.

The implied consent law allows license revocation before a judge lears the case. More than 30,000 people a year lose their licenses in Minnesota because of suspected drunk driving.

Boater rescued safely

AUSTIN — A boater got the ride of his life when he fell overboard and was swept through a floodgate of a dam.

Authorities said the man and a female companion were boating on Lake Austin when the boat's motor quit and the current carried the boat up against the Tom Miller Dam.

A security guard atop the dam threw a rope to the woman and guided her to a rescue boat, but Dirk Hoekstra fell into the water.

"A second later is when my feet got sucked in by the water gate and that's when I went through," Hoekstra told CNN.

He said he managed to take a good breath before he went under. "It was twisting me around like a rag doll and threw my arms all

"It was twisting me around like a rag doll and threw my arms all over the place and it just keeps flipping me from whirlpool to whirlpool," Hoekstra said.

He said he surfaced a quarter-to a half-mile downstream from the dam, made his way to a house on shore and called 911.

Father shoots daughter

VA VIRGINIA BEACH — A father was charged with acci-

dentally shooting his 2-year-old daughter while playing with a gun, police said.

Jered Dean Grisham, 23, was arrested and charged with felony child endangerment and reckless handling of a firearm, said Rene Ball, a police spokeswoman.

Police believe Grisham was spinning the gun on his finger when it went off, grazing his daughter's legs. She was treated at a hospital

and released.
Grisham is being held in jail without bond

School looks into speech

PUEBLO — Officials at Colorado State University-Pueblo are investigating a student's complaint that a professor called Mexicans "lazy and bitter" during a classroom tirade against illegal immigrants.

Two students claimed tenured anthropology professor Dan Forsyth made the comment in a speech March 3, The Pueblo Chieftain reported.

According to the students, Forsyth allegedly said illegal immigrants and Mexicans have filled up U.S. prisons and "raped the system," the paper reported.

Forsyth denied the allegations, saying he only reminded students after class about a campus appearance by Rep. Tom Tancredo, R-Colo., an outspoken advocate for tighter immigration controls.

City eyes cable car fares

SAN FRANCISCO — A ride on a historic cable car is considered a must-do for tourists visiting the City by the Bay, like a tour of Alcatraz prison or a walk across the Golden Gate Bridge.

But the ride could soon cost them a counde extra bucks.

The board that oversees city transportation voted last week to raise the price of a cable car ride from \$3 to \$5, reasoning that tourists use cable cars far more than residents. The fare for buses, which many residents ride, would

go up only a quarter.

The proposal must still be approved by Mayor Gavin Newsom, who wants to find another way to raise funds, and the Board of Su-

pervisors.

The cable cars "shouldn't be a way for us to make money, but part of the allure and charm of the city," Newsom said.

No Sunday car sales

ME AUGUSTA — A bill that would allow Maine car dealers to sell vehicles on Sundays is dead for this session.

The Legislature's Business, Research and Economic Development Committee sent word to the House that it voted unanimously to kill the bill.

Rep. Nancy Smith, D-Monmouth, a committee co-chair, said dealers didn't support the idea and consumers expressed a desire to have one day a week to car shop without having salesmen around.

It is now illegal for dealers to sell cars, trucks or motorcycles on Sunday.

The only person to testify in favor of the bill was its sponsor, Rep. Kenneth Lindell, R-Frankfort, who said he wanted to reduce state regulation over business and give families an option to car shop on Sunday.

Stories and photos from wire services

For Womack, pop worth leaving behind

After failed crossover venture, C&W traditionalist happily returns to roots

BY MARIO TARRADELL The Dallas Morning News

few years ago, country traditionalist Lee Ann Womack dolled up and struck a come-hither pose for Matthew Rolston, a fashion photographer known for his shots of stars such as Cvndi Lauper and Jennifer Lopez. The glamorous picture became the cover of Womack's 2002 album, "Some-thing Worth Leaving Behind." That cover telegraphed a clear change: Lee Ann Womack was going pop.

It didn't go well. Womack's next big photo session produced a CD cover that could pass for one of Tammy Wynette's early '70s album jackets. A sheer veil covers her soft blond locks, sweet smile and summery halter-top, lending a golden hue. And again, the message couldn't be more plain: 2005's "There's More Where That Came From" would be a traditional country album - twin fiddles, moaning pedal steel guitars and mandolins; stories of cheating, hard lessons and heartbreak.

"When I started making this record, I said I'm gonna have fun, and that's it. I'm not going to worry about does this sound right coming from a woman, or is this too country, or is this intro too " says Womack. She's nursing a bowl of oatmeal with butter and brown sugar during a breakfast interview. The Jacksonville, Texas, native was in Dallas for the release of "There's More Where That Came From.

"I wanted this record to sound like where I came from."

Womack is the genre's latest artist to start out traditional, flirt with pop, then hightail it back to country. Her brief detour puts her in good company with icons such as Willie Nelson, Dolly Parton and Loretta Lynn as well as big-selling stars Garth Brooks and LeAnn Rimes.

There's nothing wrong with a little experimentation, of course, as long as you don't lose your ar-tistic identity. Nelson pulled it off with 1982's "Always On My



Lee Ann Womack, who made a name for herself in the country world with her hit "I Hope You Dance," says she "didn't have much fun" during her foray into pop music.

Mind" and especially 1978's collection of pop standards, "Stardust." But Parton had trouble staying focused.

While her 1977 pop foray, "Here You Come Again," succeeded by mixing plenty of Dolly's personality with mainstream hooks and melodies, 1988's "Rainbow" bombed because it glossed over her distinctive style.

Sometimes confusing die-hard fans leads to sure failure. Brooks became another character, Chris Gaines, for his doomed pop effort, 1999's "In the Life of Chris Gaines." He left millions of admirers scratching their heads, wondering what he was doing. For Rimes, 2002's "Twisted Angel" seemed more a prod-

uct of her teenage rebellion than

Womack's excursion into pop

was sparked by the mammoth success of 2000's "I Hope You Dance," a 3-million-selling CD that produced the smash title cut. a hit on the coun-

makina this

record, I said

Im gonna

have fun, and

that's it. ... I

wanted this

record to

sound like

from 17

This Came From

try, pop and adult contemporary charts. The album was a thoughtfully conceived blend of traditional her country base and smoother pop elements.

She felt the sti

fling pressure of following up such a huge record, so she 44 When I started made herself miserable in the studio recording "Something Worth
Leaving Behind."
She had pop producer Matt Serletic (Matchbox Twenty) soup up an alternate version of 'Something Worth Leaving Behind," hoping it would ensure the same mass-appeal of "I

Hope You Dance The whole e where I came deavor sank. "Something Worth Leav-ing Behind" peaked Lee Ann Womack at No. 20 on Billboard's country sin-Describing her new CD, chart "There's More Where never crossed over to non or adult con-

temporary. The album didn't fare better; it sold barely 300,000 copies, according to Niels en SoundScan.

"I didn't have that much fun making 'Something Worth Leaving Behind," she says before tak-ing a sip of coffee. Womack, dressed in blue jeans and a flowery halter-top with a beige shawl, is refreshingly honest.

'Now that I look back on it, because of the success that I had prior, I was so worried that I was gonna not measure up to that, that I over-thought everything on

a legitimate change of musical that record. I tried ... to please everybody with that record ... my-self, radio, the listeners, every-body who loved 'Never Again, Again' and everybody who loved 'I Hope You Dance.' And it just didn't work. It backfired.

For a while, she wasn't sure she wanted to make another album. It was her label, MCA Nashville, that coaxed her back

into the studio.
This time, she was determined to please only one per-son — herself. And the return to coun-

worked "There's More Where That Came From" sold a healthy 83,000 cop-ies its first week in stores. The disc's first single, a classic cheating ballad titled "I May Hate Myself in the Morning," sits in the Top

Traditional country music in its purest form is a rarity these days: songs characterized by or ganic musicianship heavy on fiddles and steel guitars; emotional songs painting everyday subjects as univer

sal truths "That's my favorite kind," says Womack. "I mean, it fires me up. Traditional country is the most beautiful thing in the world. And you know I don't sing country music because I'm not capable of singing other kinds of

music. I sing it because I just love People ask her why she likes "sad stuff" so much, she says.

"I have no explanation for why I can put on 'A Good Year for the Roses,' crank it up and just ... it does something to me. It makes me happy. I don't understand what's going on there, but it does.

An interstellar success

Career-achievement prizes? Maybe for your ordinary, down-to-earth directors, not vour interstellar

filmmaking overlords "Star Wars" cre-

ator George Lucas is receiving a "galactic-achievement award" next week at ShoWest, an annual convention of theater owners in Las Vegas The honor being

presented March 17 comes two months

before the debut of the final installment in Lucas' sci-fi saga, "Star Wars: Episode III Revenge of the Sith," chronicling the transformation of young hero Anakin Skywalker (Hayden Christensen) into the

dark lord Darth Vader

"This unique award celebrates the enduring popularity of the 'Star Wars' movies and the enormous impact and influence they have had on audiences and popular culture," Mitch Neuhauser, co-manager of ShoWest, said Tuesday.

"Revenge of the Sith" onens in U.S. the aters on May 19.

Actress disputes RNC charges

Actress Rosario Dawson says she will fight disorderly conduct and obstruction charges stemming from her arrest during the Republican National Convention last

Dawson, 25, was arrested filming the movie "This Revolution." along with director Stephen Marshall. Authorities said she was wearing two handkerchiefs on her face with only her eyes showing.

A criminal complaint says she refused when ordered by police to move from the 35th Street and Eighth Avenue location, near the site of the GOP convention.

When Marshall tried to show the city film permit to police, he and Dawson were arrested. Dawson refutes the police department's claim that she refused to move

A Manhattan criminal court judge Tuesday denied Dawson's request to dismiss the charges and said her trial would begin next week. The New York Post reported.

Wonder to star at Tiger Jam

Stevie Wonder will have Sin City "Dancing to the Rhythm" when the Grammy winner headlines the upcoming Tiger Jam

The annual benefit concert sponsored by Tiger Woods is scheduled for May 21 at the Mandalay Bay hotel-casino in Las

"Stevie Wonder is a music legend, and I'm thrilled he's headlining Tiger Jam ," Woods said in a statement Tuesday.

"He's very committed to social causes, which makes him a



Foundation. SBC Communications also is a sponsor. Proceeds from pre-

vious concerts have supported a variety of organizations, including the Boys & Girls Club of Las Vegas and the VH1 Save the Music Foundation.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



YOUR MONEY

Slick advice about changing motor oil

My co-worker and I are having a disagreement about oil changes. Our question: When changing oil, is it advisable to use the same brand of oil all the time? I have always used the same brand, and think this is the way to go. She feels that as long as the oil is changed every 3,000 miles, it doesn't matter which brand is used, as long as you use winteror summer-weight oil appropri-

buying is suitable for your car

First, you want to look for the API

seal. That's the American Petro-

leum Institute, an organization

that certifies that motor oils meet

the cooperative standards set by

engineers, manufacturers and

RAY: Next, you want to use the

grade of oil recommended in your

owner's manual. There are really no "summer" or "winter" weight

graduate students in chemistry.

ately Jacki т TOM:

Click and Clack

hope oil for gasoyou don't have a lot riding on this, RAY: And finally, you want to Jacki, because your co-worker is about to collect. She's certainly be sure that the bottle doesn't say more correct about oil changes something like "may contain small pieces of dinosaur bones."

RAY: Motor oils are incredibly That would suggest that it hasn't similar. And even the same brands sometimes alter their forbeen in the ground long enough. TOM: You can change your oil mulation from time to time to every 3,000 miles if you're really make their oils better ... or cheanparticular, but we recommend changing it every 5.000 miles at TOM: There are only a few things you need to look for to most. Today's oil is good enough to easily go more than 5,000 miles. So if you change it more make sure the bottle of oil you're

often, vou're just wasting vour money and creating a disposal RAY. Right Other than using it on his hair and in his salad, my brother can't figure out what to do with all of our used oil.

extreme climates. Most cars use a

multiviscosity oil like 5W-30 all

year round (which performs like

a 5-weight oil in cold weather.

and a 30-weight oil in hot weath-

er), but check your manual to be

mance level. API changes the rat-

ings as standards improve, and

you want to be sure you're getting

the latest and greatest additives

and technolo-

gy. Currently,

highest-rated

SI." is the

TOM: Then check the perfor-

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk section of cars.com on the World Wide Web. Distributed by King Features

Reroute your career!

Author: Risks could save you from breaking point

BY CAROL KLEIMAN Chicago Tribuni

From 1995 to 1998, when Mary Lou Quinlan was chief executive officer of a major advertising agency, she used to dream about breaking a leg. Today, Quinlan, 51, is founder and CEO of Just Woman, a New York-based marketing consulting firm — and she's not a masochist: She simply used to fantasize about a way to get a break from the "cutthroat" ad world and her demand-

ing job.
"My work schedule had gotten out of control and My work schedule had gotten out or comfor and I didn't have a life," said Quinlan, who supervised a staff of 400 people and earned in the six figures. "I was working I5-hour days and traveling a lot — I even took off my heels and ran barefoot through an airport to make a flight — and I was over elmed. I was a human FedEx package

And she's not alone. "According to my re-earch, almost seven in 10 people who make \$40,000 or more a year fantasize about taking at least several months off, and one in five 35- to 40-year-olds fantasize about it daily," said Quin lan, who has an MBA and who has also worked in public relations and in fund raising. She quotes this statistic in her new book, "Time Off for Good Behavior: How Hardworking Women Can Take a Break and Change Their Lives." In 1998, Quinlan, who is married to Joe Quin-

lan, an independent television producer, asked for five weeks off to focus on herself.

"I combined my vacation and time due me, so it was paid leave," she said. "I fully expected to re-

The weeks of time she claimed for herself were etter than healing from a broken leg: "I lived my life for the first time," said Quinlan, "I took walks in my neighborhood, I met friends for lunch, I took salsa lessons, I kept a journal — and the big thing was that I was relaxed and thought about my life for the first time. Did I have a life? No, I and create strategies for companies that wanted to build their business with female customers She also wanted to write and give talks and be in control of her life.

"I went back to work and quit the first day," Quinlan said. "I couldn't got back to that life after I once had seen the other side of the fence. It opened my eyes to what life can be."

Fortunately, the agency's holding company liked her idea and provided funding for Just Ask a Woman, which she started in 1999 and bought in 2002. The marketing firm has three employees and, she says, "is very profitable." She works nor mal hours and has reduced her travel

Because she at first remained under the aegis of her employer, Quinlan's leaving her job was not a financial hardship and her benefits were maintained. But she does has specific advice for others who must take a break before they break.

"Don't do it just on the spur of the moment," the executive advised. "Plan ahead. Figure out how much time you'll need. Make a financial plan, an escape hatch to bide you over in case your leave is unpaid. Get support from friends and family who might pitch in on child care, if you need it, and give you space and time to get a rest for the first time in your life."

Then, negotiate with your boss for what you need, she adds.

"Suggest how work might be covered in your absence. Discuss your plans to return to work and assure them you will. If you're really miserable you should just quit. Don't lie.'

And use your time off wisely, as she did. "Reflect," Quinlan urged. "Start to draw some bound-aries at work so that you have time for yourself, too." The executive believes it is possible to reduce stress by setting a new schedule at work

"Do something about your situation. It's scary to take the risk of a leave of absence, but the alter-

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

					HINDL,	(LJ					
Hlai	2-week h Lo	w N	ame			La	st	Net Chg	She 9	YTD	52-wi % Cho
10,984,4	6 9,708,	40 Do	w Jones	Industrial	5	10.805.	62 -1	107.00	98	+.21	+4.9
3,889.9	7 2,743.	46 Do	w Jones	Transport	ation	3.840.	09 -	-32.08	83	+1.11	+37.7
363.8				Utilities		353.		-6.83	-1.89	+5.68	+27.7
7,455.0	8 6,211.	33 NY	SE Com	posite		7,354.	74	-71.43	96	+1.44	+11.5
1.539.1	4 1.150.	74 Ar	nex Inde			1,500.		-29.11	-1.90	+4.63	+20.7
2,191.6				mposite		2,061.		-12.26	59	-5.25	+4.9
1,229,1	1 1.060.	72 S8	IP 500			1.207.	01 -	-12.42	-1.02	41	+7.4
683.3			LP MidC			669.		-7.31	-1.08	+.97	+12.6
656.1			ssell 20			631.		-6.90	-1.08	-3.14	+9.7
12,108.9	3 10,268.	52 DJ	Wilshire	5000		11,886.	34 -1	122.03	-1.02	71	+8.2
Most	NYS Active		MORE)	Most	Active		MORE)	Most	NASI ACTIVE		R MORE
Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg	Name	Vol (00)	Last	: Ch
ExxonMbl	679131	60.79	-2.31	SPDR	717150	120.97	-1.36	Nasd100Tr	941470	37,57	
Lucent	620901	2.96	09	SemiHTr	252855	34.06	+.08	Cisco	800578	18.53	+.4
Elan	480344	7.88	+.75	SP Engy	154031	43.33	-1.23	JDS Uniph	765764	1.95	0
TimeWarn	232327	17.53	10	iShRs2000	111272	125.71	-1.44	Intel	637202	24.84	
Pfizer	217279	26.74	02	iShlapan	86128	10.95	+.04	Microsoft	607061	25.31	
TexInst Crompton	200070 191705	26.64 15.31	+.30	SP Fncl OilSvHT	67673 64021	29.78 96.10	37 -2.44	AppleC s Oracle	470761 374502	39.35 13.35	-1.1
JPMoroCh	176112	36.47	47	DJIA Diam	50458	108.04	-1.12	SiriusS	365581	5.60	
GenElec	155362	35.74		RemaGold	47475	3.15	+.11	SunMicro	315194	4.36	

Name Dv Alliast Icchnosystem Amer Holdings Boeing 1.80 Computer Sciences Engineered Sup 59, 37 General Dynamics 1.60 General Electric 88 Hallianton 48 Hallianton 48 Li Communications 1.60 Northerid 1.80 Northerid 1.8	18 17 25 14 19 18 22 29 23 22 21	73.22 41.26 57.75 44.40 55.63 108.66 35.74 42.13 67.86 38.12 75.82 60.54	-71 -26 -40 -75 -84 -27 -32 -129 +.17 -60 -79 +.11	**Chg +12.0 -12.3 +11.6 -21.2 -6.1 +3.9 -2.1 +7.4 +9.8 +7.7 +3.5	Rame Fidelity Invest: Groinc Fidelity Invest: Groinc Fidelity Invest: Groinc Amer Century Inv. Ultra Fidelity Spartan: Egida Pottam Funds A: GrinA p Fidelity Invest: A Mgr Frank / Femp Fink & SMCpGrA AM Investments A: Corest p Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: Orises Fidelity Invest: Orises	22.68 11.02 36.36 30.32	-35 -43 -24 -44 -23 -08 -32 -21 -06 -02 -29	22 d 42 d
Armor Holdings 1.00 Boeing 1.00 Computer Sciences	17 25 14 19 18 22 29 23 22 21	41.26 57.75 44.40 55.63 108.66 35.74 42.13 67.86 38.12 75.82 60.54	26 40 75 84 27 32 -1.29 +.17 60	-12.3 +11.6 -21.2 -6.1 +3.9 -2.1 +7.4 +9.8 +7.7 +3.5	Fidelity Invest: GroCo Amer Century Inv: Ultra Fidelity Spartan: Egids Putnam Funds A: GrinA p Fidelity Invest: A Mor Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA AIM Investments A: Corest p Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	53.60 28.82 42.83 19.52 16.13 34.07 22.68 11.02 36.36 30.32	.43 .24 .44 .23 .08 .32 .21	44 43 43 45 45 43 42 42 42 42
1.00	25 14 19 18 22 29 23 22 21	57.75 44.40 55.63 108.66 35.74 42.13 67.86 38.12 75.82 60.54	40 75 84 27 32 -1.29 +.17 60	+11.6 -21.2 -6.1 +3.9 -2.1 +7.4 +9.8 +7.7 +3.5	Amer Čentury Inv: Ultra Fidelity Spartar: Eqidx Putnam Funds A: GrinA p Fidelity Invest: A Mgr Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA AM Investments A: Const p Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	28.82 42.83 19.52 16.13 34.07 22.68 11.02 36.36 30.32	24 44 23 08 32 21 06	45 45 45 428
Domputer Sciences Ingineered Sup Sys 97 Seneral Dynamics 1.60 Seneral Electric 88 Halilbarten 50 Harris Corp. 48 Halilbarten 50 Ockheed Martin 1.00 NorthrpG 5 Saytheon 80 Nockwell Intl. 66 Seous Corp.	14 19 18 22 29 23 22 21	44.40 55.63 108.66 35.74 42.13 67.86 38.12 75.82 60.54	75 84 27 129 +.17 60	-21.2 -6.1 +3.9 -2.1 +7.4 +9.8 +7.7 +3.5	Fidelity Sparfan: Eqidx Putnam Funds A: GrinA p Fidelity Invest: A Mgr Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA AM Investments A: Const p Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: Dvrsea Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	42.83 19.52 16.13 34.07 22.68 11.02 36.36 30.32	44 23 08 32 21 06	+3 -3 -3 -21
Ingineered Sup Sys Seneral Dynamics Seneral Electric Seneral El	19 18 22 29 23 22 21	55.63 108.66 35.74 42.13 67.86 38.12 75.82 60.54	84 27 32 -1.29 +.17 60	-6.1 +3.9 -2.1 +7.4 +9.8 +7.7 +3.5	Putnam Funds A: GrinA p Fidelity Invest: A Mgr Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA AlM Investments A: Corest p Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	19.52 16.13 34.07 22.68 11.02 36.36 30.32	23 08 32 21 06	+3 -2 +21
Seineral Dynamics 1.60 Senneral Electric 8.8 Halibarton 5.0 Halibarton 5.0 Halibarton 8.3 Lilied Signal 8.3 Lilied Signal 8.3 Lilied Signal 8.3 Lilied Signal 9.3 Northrip 6.3 Raytheon 8.0 Rockwell Intil 6.6 Seous Corn.	18 22 29 23 22 21	35.74 42.13 67.86 38.12 75.82 60.54	27 32 -1.29 +.17 60 79	+3.9 -2.1 +7.4 +9.8 +7.7 +3.5	Fidelity Invest: A Mgr Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA AIM Investments A: Coret p Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	16.13 34.07 22.68 11.02 36.36 30.32	08 32 21 06 02	+21
Seneral Electric 88 Halliburten 50 Harris Corp. 48 Hirid Signal 83 -13 Communications 50 Lockheed Martin 1.80 Northing S 32 Raytheon 80 Rockwell Intil. 46 Feaus Corp.	22 29 23 22 21	35.74 42.13 67.86 38.12 75.82 60.54	32 -1.29 +.17 60 79	-2.1 +7.4 +9.8 +7.7 +3.5	Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA AIM Investments A: Const p Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	34.07 22.68 11.02 36.36 30.32	32 21 06 02	+2.1
Halifuxton 50 Harris Corp. 48 Hilled Signal 83 1-3 Communications 50 Lockheed Martin 1.00 Northryo 5 Raytheon 80 Rockwell Intl. 66 Seous Corp. 66	29 23 22 21	42.13 67.86 38.12 75.82 60.54	-1.29 +.17 60 79	+7.4 +9.8 +7.7 +3.5	AIM Investments A: Const p Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	22.68 11.02 36.36 30.32	21 06 02	+2.1
Harris Corp. .48 Vilied Signal .83 -3 Communications .50 .ockheed Martin 1.00 VorthrpG s .92 Raytheon .80 bockwell Intl. .66 iequa Corp.	29 23 22 21	67.86 38.12 75.82 60.54	+.17 60 79	+9.8 +7.7 +3.5	Fidelity Invest: USBI Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	11.02 36.36 30.32	06	+2.1
Ulied Signal .83 -3 Communications .50 cockheed Martin 1.00 forthrpG s .92 kaytheon .80 tockwell Intl66 lequa Corp.	23 22 21	38.12 75.82 60.54	60 79	+7.7	Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	36.36 30.32	02	+2.1
L-3 Communications .50 Lockheed Martin 1.00 NorthryG s .92 Raytheon .80 Rockwell Intl66 Secus Corp	22 21	75.82 60.54	79	+3.5	Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	30.32	- 29	
forthrpG s .92 laytheon .80 lockwell Intl66 legua Corp		60.54	+.11					
kaythéon .80 kockwell Intl66 legua Corp				+9.0	Fidelity Advisor T: EgInT	28.59	34	+1.3
tockwell Intl66 Segua Corp	18	54.25	70	-2	Scudder Funds S: GroIncS	21.91	22	-
egua Corp	42	39.00	-	+.4	Putnam Funds A: GlbEqty p	8.59	09	+1.3
Sequa Corp Invas Instruments 10	23	59.96	-1.17	+21.0	AIM Investments A: ChartA p	12.97	13	+1.3
	32	52.96	-2.14	-13.4	AIM Investments A: WeingA p	12.86	14	-1.4
	25	26.64	+.30	+8.2	Merrill Lynch I: BalCapl		-	N/
fextron Inc. 1.40	30	77.68	-1.49	+5.3	Soudder Funds S: Intl FdS	45.87	11	+3.7
Inited Technologies 1.76	18	100.54	-1.72	-2.7	Fidelity Advisor T: OvrseaT	18.22	01	+2.1
					Lord Abbett A: DevGtA p	15.38	23	-3.5
					Scudder Funds S: Income S	12.89	06	24
					Merrill Lynch I: USGvtMtg			N/
					Scudder Funds S: Devel Putnam Funds A: GIGvA p	19.95 13.11	24 03	+2.4

EXCHANGE RATES

Bahrain (Dinar) ... British pound Canada (Dollar) Denmark (Krone Egypt (Pound) ... Euro

PRECIOUS METALS

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.5
Discount rate	3.5
Federal funds market rate	2.5
3-month bill	2.7
30-year bond	4.8
Sources: The Associated Press, B	Jank (
America	

ents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

Reviewing credit reports

NEW YORK - You should check your credit report at least once a year, but many Americans don't. In fact, far too many adults have never reviewed a credit report, which consists of all your current lines of credit and loans, as well as black marks such as late payments and overdraft charges.

According to a survey by Ex-perian and The Gallup Organization of 2,007 randomly selected adults, 48 percent of Americans have never checked their credit report.

Checking your credit report is vital for your financial success. Your credit file can reveal poor credit decisions - late payments and such - that can pre vent you from getting a lender's best interest rates when you invest in a mortgage or take personal, business or auto loan.

Reviewing your report can also help you determine if you've been a victim of identity theft — you'll know if any unau-thorized accounts have been

opened in your name. Under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act, all U.S residents are — or will be — allowed one free credit report per

The FACT Act is phasing in the one free report per year across the nation

Thus far, people living in the following states are eligible: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washing-ton, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

The remaining states will phase in as follows:

June 1: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Lou-isiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and

Sept. 1: Connecticut, Dela-ware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jer-sey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Ver-mont, Virginia and West Virginia.

For a copy of your free credit report, call 1-877-322-8228 or www.annualcreditreport.com.



EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Cloudy with rainshowers Highs in the upper 30s to lower 40s

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid to upper 40s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Partly to mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 30s.

France: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with isolated morning rainshowers. Highs in the upper 40s to upper 50s.

Northern Germany: Cloudy with iso-lated rain and snowshowers. Highs

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with rain and snowshowers. Highs in the upper 30s to lower 40s.

Hungary: Cloudy with rain and snow-showers. Highs in the mid to upper

Northern Italy: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

Southern Italy: Partly to mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the lower to mid 50s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 20s to lower 30s. Saturday lows in the upper teens to mid 20s.

Norway: Cloudy with rain and snow-showers. Highs in the mid 30s. Saturday lows in the upper single digits to upper teens.

Portugal, Spain: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 50s to upper 60s. In the north, Saturday lows in the lower 30s to lower 40s. In the south, Saturday lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

Turkey: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rain, snowshowers and thunderstorms. In the north and inland, highs in the lower to mid 30s with nighs in the lower to mid 30s with Saturday lows in the lower 20s to lower 30s. In the south and east, highs in the upper 40s to mid 50s with Saturday lows in the upper 20s to mid 30s. to mid 30s

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home

page at: https://ows.sembach.af.mil http://ows.public.sembach.af.mil



TODAY'S STATESIDE

Incirlik

64/44

Pt. Cldy. Mostly cldy. Clouds

WORLD

Lo Ottl
45 (2)
45 (2)
46 (2)
47 Sno
28 Sno
78 (2)
28 Sno
44 POk
43 (2)
43 FOk
31 Sno
24 POk
43 (2)
43 FOk
31 Sno
25 Sno
26 Sno
26 Sno
26 Sno
27 Pok
39 POk
27 Pok 21 Snow 33 PCIdy 339 Cldy 339 PCIdy 22 Snow 52 PCIdy 22 Snow 52 PCIdy 34 PCIdy 34 PCIdy 34 PCIdy 34 PCIdy 54 PCIdy 55 PC 32 60 62 62 38 32 76 71 36 72 62 37 32 18 68 363 72 40 39 21 63 30 64 33 80 67 60 29 69 82 64 Snow Snow Cir Snow Cla Rain PCldy PCldy Snow Cla Snow PCldy Clay Clay Clay Clay Snow Snow PCldy PCIdy Rain PCIdy Cldy Cldy 33 33 15 22

Snow Snow PCldy Cldy Clr PCldy 413467817323657884348745072298339495723965827554756782266 25 28 38 69 64 33 20 43 44 39 27 62 31 48 14 55 25 28 41 55 27 39 37 7 44 36 54 42 12 7 41 Cidy PCidy PCidy PCidy PCidy PCidy Snow Cir Rain Cidy PCidy Snow PCidy Snow PCidy Snow PCidy PCidy Snow PCidy PCidy Snow PCidy PCidy PCidy Snow PCidy PCidy PCidy Snow PCidy PCidy PCidy PCidy Snow PCidy PCidy PCidy PCidy Snow PCidy PCi POId POId POId

Bagh

67/47

Tehran

61/47

ait City

Citily PCitily Snow Snow Citily PCitily Citily Citily Snow Snow Snow 31 488 31 365 499 283 437 32 266 22 266 46 31 33 32 22 11 49 26 76 42 77 Snow PCidy Rain Cir Cidy Snow Snow Snow

Zahedar

77/53 •

Oir PCidy Oir Oir Oir Oir 71 70 76 79 86 61 21 62 69 42 38 29 64 39 52 34 66 69 32 52 85 63 422 465 555 529 711 311 44 453 231 191 177 388 191 277 244 377 Snow PCidy PCidy PCidy Snow PCidy PCidy Snow PCidy PCidy Snow PCidy PCid 53 20 29 48 36 47 35 55 32 39 28 31 56 71 46 74 61 71 38 42 73 PCldy PCldy PCldy Snow Snow

Mazar-e-Sharif

57/41

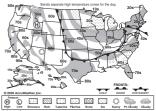
74/53

Karach 87/68

THE UNITED STATES TODAY

79/58

92/67



First qtr. 17 Mar 05 Full moon 25 Mar 05 Last qtr. 2 Apr 05 New moo 8 Apr 05

Scheduled to ETS or PCS Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.



I NO LONGER WISH TO BE

CALLED A * BO

Hobbes

ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU ARE?

Horoscope

The headstrong Aries lunar ener gy causes some to be overly aggressive, thinking that the louder they talk or the more they repeat themselves, the better their **Holiday Mathis** chances of being heard. The opposite is true. With so much Pisces energy in the heavens, subtlety communicates much more clearly. Dare to be soft.

humble and even cov. TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 11). You're on a mission - nearly obsessed, really! This intense degree of focus is what it takes for mastery and

attainment of something that goes to the elite few! In May, circulate, and make valuable contacts. Finances improve, and because of this, you're able to fund life-improving summer projects. Love is an adventure with Leo and Libra.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). That unpleasant person or awkward issue must now be dealt with direct-

lv. Avoidance is pointless. Like a bad French movie, your life will keep intersecting with the thing until a madcap culmination is reached. TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

When communication is missed and

events don't unfold cleanly, extend the benefit of the doubt. You're so on the go that even people who should know how to find you have a hard time tracking you down

GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

The saying goes that "rejection is God's protection." In spite of recent reversals, the demand for what only you can deliver has not slacked in the slightest. You're still charismatic, and tonight's events prove it.

CANCER (June 22-July 22).

You're a giving soul. But the neediness in the world is just too strong a current and succumbing to it will drag you in over your head. Though you won't be able to give people all they want from you, give what you

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your inventiveness, intuition and ingenuity sparkle up everything you touch. You've got answers that even the

powers of Google couldn't deliver! Too bad friends don't follow your advice, but hey, at least you follow vour own

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sentimentality dictates some of your activities. It's not like you, and

maybe that's the appeal You feel soft and pliable. It's time to admit it: Your passing fancy is growing into an abiding attach-

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll

witness the domino effect. Perhaps the snarled-up plans of the day would discourage a less creative soul, but you'll make something

magical out of the whole mess You're nothing if not resilient.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your psychic antennae are activa ed. Someone is either talking about what you can do for him or her or fantasizing about same. What a coincidence - you were just think ing about what that person might do for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). What's life without glamour, art and adventure? Unless you do some research or make some plans for the weekend, you're about to find out! Get on that! A Gemini can contribute.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). Even if you're destined for a day of labor, find ways to cut loose and have a little fun. Your association with a Leo or Aquarius helps. Playful electricity is in the air. Join the merry-go-round of people out and about

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). What would happen if you just let go of plaguing commitment issues? Maybe you're just fine with the level of commitment you have! I ove is more fun if you play it by ear now anvwav.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

Ahandon antiquated ideas and outdated methods for the modern streamlined and efficient. The more you automate your life, the more time you have to be frivolous and spontaneous. Reintroduce vourself to the concept of fun.

Creators Syndicate

Peanuts









·im)

Worse 5



WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE CALLED THEN?

YES, BUT I FIND

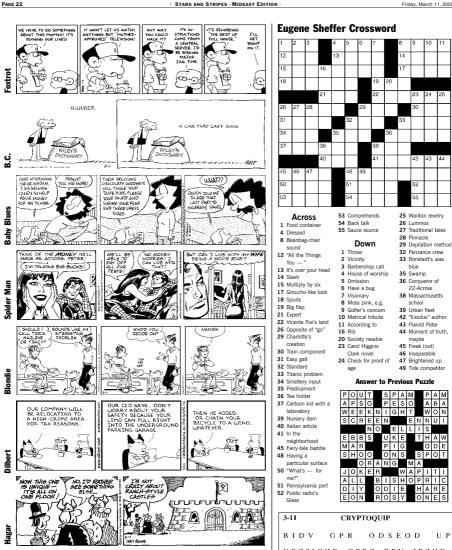
DEMEANING AND SEXIST

THAT MAY NOT

WHEN YOU'R COME BY!

A "CHROMOSOMALLY ADVANTAGED YOUTH!

· STARS AND STRIPES · MIDEAST EDITION · Friday, March 11, 2005



YAAAAHHH!

ALL I SAID WAS, "HELLO"

ЧААААННН

HELLO

YRZSICHD GPRZ PBV IPZHD,

GPR BEMM DADVURCMMG

A D U P YPVG

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HAVE YOU HEARD THAT THE VANDALS DESTROYED ROAD SIGNS. PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals P

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Let's take (yawn) 20 minutes for a recess

Expensive gifts mark of pedophile

Dear Abby: I am a happily married man, raising two daugh-ters, ages 12 and 15.

A friend I have known for 20 years, "Kevin," has become a little too friendly toward our 15-year-old, "Amanda." He has been giving Amanda money for doing nothing. The first time, he gave her \$300 Dear Abby and told her not to tell her mother or me. Of course, our daughter told

us anyway. When we confronted Kevin, he said he felt sorry for Amanda and she was supposed to baby-sit to pay back the loan, so we allowed her to keep the money to buy

clothes with A few weeks after that. Kevin gave Amanda \$200 for letting him cut her long blond hair so he could sell it on the Internet. Needless to say. her mother and I were very upset. But instead of confronting him again, we just gave Kevin the cold shoulder, hoping he'd

get the message and go away About a month later, he snuck into our home while my wife and lite box in Amanda's room. Wh we discovered the box, we asked Amanda where it came from. and she said Kevin. I looked at the programming on the box. It had been rigged with free pay and pornography channels. We

removed the box, gave it back to our ex-friend and ordered him never to come around our kids again. Do you think we did enough?

— Unsure in Washington

Dear Unsure: One of the things pedophiles do with potential vic tims is something called "grooming. They befriend the young person, give him

or her gifts or money, encourage the minor to keep secrets from their parents, and then the seduction begins. That's what the "free" porn channel in

your daughter's bedroom was for You did not do nearly enough in dealing with this predator Although you may have discour aged him from targeting Amanda, your community? Please contact your local police immediately

Dear Abby: My daughter came home from school the other day with bruises on her body When I asked her how she got them, she told me a little boy beat her up at recess. I went to the school to talk with her teacher, but nothing was done, and my daughter came home with another bruise yesterday. What should

> Worried Mom in Thomasville, Ga.

Dear Worried: Your child has a right to get an education, free from bullying or harassment. Since talking to the teacher didn't help, here's the drill: Take your complaint to the principal of the school. If that doesn't stop the problem, go to the school board. If they fail to act, consult a lawyer. Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069, Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at

http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square. to form four ordinary words



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

WHEN THE JUDGE

PRESIDED OVER

THE LONG

TRIAL, HE-

(Answers tomorrow) Jumbles: AGILE BLIME IMPEND LIMPID He didn't take sides in the debate because Answer: he was a - "MIDDLE" MAN

DORMIB HUNGOE

Make best of daughter's choice

Dear Annie: 1 am concerned about my 21-year-old daughter "Lindsey." She has been with "Chip" for three years, although the relationship has always been on-again, off-again, Last year, Chip broke up with her, she gained a ton of weight, and then begged him to come back, altering her entire self to become the person Chip wanted her to be.

It devastated us to see this intelligent voung woman become someone she is not. But even worse, last summer she and Chip were married. It kills me that she makes concessions to him. She attends college full time and works part time, and he expects her to keep the house clean, make dinner, do laundry, etc., while he works at a job making slightly above minimum wage then comes home and sits on his behind, watching TV. At one point, Chip told Lindsey he didn't love her and was moving out, then changed his mind, and she let him move back in



about washed his hands of her, and to be honest. I am not far behind. When Chin comes over, which is rare, we try to be friendly and make him feel welcome. But how can we accept a person like this into our family when we know how little he cares about our daughter's feel-

ings? I love Lindsey so much, and this is breaking my

- Desperate Mother

in Kentucky Dear Desperate: Lindsey may have made a mistake marrying Chip, but she is an adult, and you're going to have to make the best of it. You are wise to be friendly and welcoming to your son-in-law, because doing otherwise would push your daughter away. Make sure Lindsey knows how much you love her and that you will always be a source of comfort and support. Meanwhile. we hope Chip can grow up and

become the man he needs to be

Dear Annie: You recently printed a letter from "Bride in Endicott, N.Y.," who said it was great when shower guests address their own thank-you notes be-cause it means the spelling and address are correct. She also said it helps if the guest identifies how

she is related If a bride doesn't know me well enough to know who I am, why on earth did she invite me to her shower?

- Cross Me Off Her Guest List Dear Cross Me Off: Let's not go overboard. We agree that brides should address their own thank-you notes, but it is not unusual for unfamiliar guests to be present. After all, the bride is

not the one hosting the party. It is proper, for example, to invite the new in-laws, including the groom's cousins and aunts whom the bride may not have met previously.

Annie's Malibox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Malibox, c/o Creators Syndi Century Blvd, Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 900E.

Family Circus

Yesterday's



"They're a little big for you, Grandma, but that's okay. You'll arow into them.'

MA







"Well, if you're almost ready



SCOREBOARD

AFN TV & Radio

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-College basketball ac-10 Conference tournament quarterfina Oubleneauer (uiu).

AFN-Sports, 2 p.m.-College basketball: AtIntic Chast Conference tournament game

dld).

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.-Motor racing: Crandon
nternational Off-Road Race 1 (dld).
AFN-Sports, 6 p.m.-College basketball: Big
en Conference tournament doubleheader.
AFN-Sports, 10:30 p.m.-College basketball:
conference USA tournament semifinal dou-

Saturday

AFN-Atlantic, 1:30 a.m.-College basketball: Southeastern Conference tournament quar-terfinal doubleheader. erfinal doubleheader. AFN-Sports, 3:30 a.m.-College basketball sig East Conference tournament semifina

jame. AFN-Radio, 3 a.m.-Pro basketball: Houston AFN-Pacific, 4 a.m.-Pro basketball: L.A. lippers at Sacramento.

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-Pro basketball: Houston at Phoenix (dld).

AFN-Sports, 12:30 p.m.-College basketball:
Atlantic Coast Conference tournament guar-

arfinal game (dld).

AFN-Sports and Radio, 5:30 p.m.-College asketball: Conference USA championship

ame. **AFN-Pacific, 5:30 p.m.**-College basketball: merica East Conference championship -Atlantic, 6 p.m.-College basketball:

IEAC championship game. AFN-Pacific and Radio, 7:30 p.m.-College asketball: Atlantic Coast Conference semifinal doubleheader.

AFN-Sports, 7:45 p.m.-College basketball:
Big Ten Conference tournament semifinal

loubleheader.

AFN-Atlantic, 8 p.m.-College basketball:
No XII Conference tournament semifinal L.A. Angels (ss) vs. San Francisco (ss) at icottsdale. Ariz.

All times are Central European Time; dld in-dicates delayed listing. All listings are sub-ject to change. Visit www.myafn.netfor more information.

Baseball Spring training glance AMERICAN LEAGUE

.833 .667 Bostor Cleveland Tampa Bay Los Angeles Detroit .667 .667 .625 .600 .571 Texas Baltimore Minnesota Oakland Chicago Kansas City .375 .33 .286 .167 NATIONAL LEAGUE W L Pct Atlanta

Atlanta St. Louis Colorado Washington Chicago *Allwaukee .800 .66 .62 .62 .62 .57 Milwauke San Franc Cincinnat New York Arizona .500 .500 .333 San Diego Pittsburgh Pittsburgh 2
Florida 2
Los Angeles 2
Houston 1
Note: Split-squad games coun
standings; games against non-maj
teams do not. .250 .250 .167

stamings upones against norr-inspir teague teams do neknesday's games. Teasas, Chicago Cube 3 Qualkand, San Francisco 1 Kansas City, 6, Seattle 0,000 2 Chicago Wintle Sox 7, San Diego (ss) 3 L.A. Angels (ss) 2, San Diego (ss) 1 L.A. Angels (ss) 2, San Diego (ss) 1 Saltimore vs. Minnesota at Fort Myers, Fila, cod., rain

Toronto vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fia., ccd., rain N.Y. Yankees vs. Cleveland at Winter Haven, Fla., ccd., rain Detroit (ss) vs. Washington at Viera, Fla., L.A. Dodgers vs. Tampa Bay at St. Peters-

L.A. Dodgers vs. Tampa Bay at St. Peters-burg, Fla., ccd., rain Cincinnati (ss) vs. Detroit (ss) at Lakeland, Fla., ccd., rain Cincinnati (ss) vs. Philadelphia at Clearwa-ter, Fla., ccd., rain St. Louis vs. N.Y. Mets at Port St. Lucie, Fla., ccd., rain

ain vs Atlanta at Kissimmee Fla ccd., rain

cd., rain

Thursday's games
Detroit vs. Cincinnatl at Sarasota, Fla.
Pittsburgh vs. Atlanta at Kissimmee, Fla.
LA. Dodgers vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Fla.
Houston vs. St. Louis at Jupiter, Fla.
N.Y. Mets vs. Baltimore at Fort Lauderdale,

Elorida vs. Washington (ss) at Viera, Fla. Philadelphia vs. Minnesota at Fort Myers,

Philadelpnia vs. Minicosca — Flace Cleveland (ss) vs. Tampa Bay at St. Petersburg, Fla.
Washington (ss) vs. Cleveland (ss) at Win-

burg, Fla. Washington (ss) vs. Cleveland (ss) at Win-ter Hayen, Fla. San Diego vs. Colorado at Tucson, Ariz. San Diego vs. Colorado at Tucson, Ariz. Chicago Cubs vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz. Oakland vs. L.A. Angels at Tempe, Ariz. Karisas City vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix Chicago White Sox vs. Texas at Surprise, Ariz. San Chicago White Sox vs. Texas at Surprise, Ariz.

San Francisco vs. Arizona at Tucson, Ariz. Toronto vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Fla.

Toronto vs. N.Y. Yanikees at Tampa, Fla. Friday's games
Boston vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla. Atlanta vs. Houston at Kissimmee, Fla. Baltimore vs. Florida at Jupiter, Fla. N.Y. Yankees vs. Detroit at Lakeland, Fla. St. Louis vs. Washington at Viera, Fla. Philadelphia vs. Cincinnali at Sarasota,

son, Ariz ukee vs. San Francisco at Scotts

ale, Ariz. N.Y. Mets vs. L.A. Dodgers at Vero Beach, la.

Saturday's games
Minnesota vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla.
Tampa Bay vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Fla.
Washington vs. Florida at Jupiter, Fla.
Detroit vs. Atlanta (ss) at Kissimmee, Fla.
Houston vs. Cleveland at Winter Haver

la.

A. Dodgers (ss) vs. Baltimore at Fort Lau-lerdale, Fla.

N.Y. Met's (ss) vs. L.A. Dodgers (ss) at Vero seach, Fla.
Atlanta (ss) vs. Philadelphia (ss) at Clear-vater, Fla.
Pittsburgh (ss) vs. Cincinnati (ss) at Sara-ofa, Fla. . nati (ss) vs. Pittsburgh (ss) at radenton, Fla. St. Louis vs. N.Y. Mets (ss) at Port St. Lucie,

St. Louis vs. N.Y. Mets (ss) at Port St. Lucie, Fia. Philadelphia (ss) vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Fia. Texas vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz. San Diego vs. Arizon at Trucson, Ariz. Milwaukee vs. Colorado at Trucson, Ariz. Chicago White Sox vs. Osaland at Phoenix L.A. Angels (ss) vs. Chicago Cubs at Mesa, Ariz.

San Francisco (ss) vs. Kansas City at Sur-

College basketball

Wednesday's men's scores

TOURNAMENTS Atlantic 10 Confere First Round Dayton 78, St. Bonaventure 48
Fordham 65, Duquesne 53
La Salle 70, Massachusetts 64, OT
Richmond 68, Rhode Island 60
Big East Conference
First Round
Georgetown 56, Seton Hall 51
Rughers 72, Motre Dame 65
West Virginia 62, Providence 59 n 78. St. Bona

West Virginia 82, Providence 99
Glig Sky Conference
Championship
Montan 63, Weber 51, 61
Big West Conference
First Round
UC Irvine 80, 67
Conference US
Conference US
Conference US
A First Round
DePaul 81, Tulane 71

nebaul St. Tular First Round Memphis Ta. Signi Louis 99 South Florida 59, Houston 64 The Florida 59, Houston 64 Horizon St. Conference Outsterlinals Delaware St. Counterlinals Delaware St. Counterlinals MAIA Division II Tournament Main Tech St. U. of the Careks 76 Indiana Tech St. U. of the Careks 76 Newman St. Huntington 76 Origin Tech St. V. Of the Careks 76 Newman St. Huntington 76 Origin Tech St. Manuals 36 Origin Tech cent 89, Johnson & Wales 75 m Jewell 84, Tenn. Wesleyan Northeast Conference Championship Fairleigh Dickinson 58, Wagner 52

NCAA men's automatic bids

Central Florida Atlantic Sun Conference entral Florida, Atlantic Sun Conference hattanooga, Southern Conference regions of the South Valley Conference regions of the South Valley Conference airleigh Dickinson, Northeast Conference onzaga, West Coast Conference outsiana-Lafayette, Sun Belt Conference lontana, Big Sky Conference logagra, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference ugura, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference akland, Mich., Mid-Continent Conference d Dominion, Colonial Athletic Association ensylvania, Ivy League inthrop, Big South Conference isconsin-Milwaukee, Horizon League

TANK MCNAMARA

THE BIG DANCE. BELONGS THERE

THE NCAA FINAL-FOUR BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT.
THE BIG DANCE, YES, ENORMOUS STATE UNIVERSITY

-7-5

ESU BOUGHT TIME ON ESPN TO LOBBY

THE SELECTION

COMMITTEE?

Wednesday's women's scores

TOURNAMENTS America East Confere First Round U. 85, St Big 12 Conference Quarterfinals

Baylor 70, Missouri 52 Kansas St. 71, Nebraska 45 Evasa 55, Oklahoma 59 Texas 15, Oklahoma 59 Texas Tech 61, Iowa 5t. 59 Big West Conference Big West Conference UC Irvine 75, Utah 5t. 63 UC Riverside 63, Cal St.-Fullerton Colonial Athletic Associat

Colonial Athletic Association
First Round
Hofstra 68, William & Mary 52
Va. Commonwealth 53, N.C.-Wilmington 40
Mid-American Conference
Quarterfinals
Bowling Green 84, Miami (Ohio) 68
E. Michigan 72, Ball St. 64

E. Michilgan 72, Ball St. 64
Kent St. 93, Ohlo 74
Marshall 68, Toledo 56
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conferen
Quarterfinals
Coppin St. 66, S. Carolina St. 60
Norfolk St. 64, Hampton 53
Mountain West Conference
First Round

BYU 70, Colorado St. 65 New Mexico 81, San Diego St. 52 UNLV 64, Wyoming 59 Utah 63, Air Force 42 NAIA Division II Tourn First Round

AMA Division II Tournament
RAIA Division II Tournament
First Round

Western Athletic Confe Quarterfinals esno St. 71, SMU 53 puisiana Tech 81, Boise St. 68 Louisiana Tech 81, Boise Rice 64, Nevada 54 San Jose St. 63, Tulsa 60

NCAA women's automatic bids

Canisius, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference Connecticut, Big East Conference console, weter, assente, astreete, offered, console, weter, assente, astreete, offered, offer

College baseball

Wednesday' scores

Wednesday' scores SOUTH
Ametion Allariti. S. Bellarmine 6
Ametion 6
Am

205 bite Sub. III Spin haward. Str. by J.

SLICK COMMERCIAL

I THOUGHT I SPIKE LEE

1

Winthrop 8, Clemson 2 MIDWEST Augusta St. 8, S. Indiana 6 Wichita St. 9-9, Valparaiso 0-0

BEGGING SEEMED

TO WORK FOR THE IN THE FOOTBALL
PLAYOFFS.

NO.

Friends 18, North Park 5 McMurry 7, Southwestern, Texas 5 FAR WEST Cal St.-Fullerton 7, CS Northridge 4 Washington 15, Pacific 2

Auto racing

Driver standings

NASCAR Busch Series

1. Kevin Harvick, 515; 2. Carl Edwards, 454;
Clint Bowyer, 433; 4. Martin Truex, Jr., 423;
Reed Sorenson, 414; 6. Ashton Lewis, 397;
Shane Hmiel, 376; 8. Kenny Wallace, 318; 9.
ustin Labonte, 303; 10. Jason Keller, 294 Justin Laborito 303; 10,360; waglatce, 328; 9, MSCAR (2008) 10,300 Keller, 250 1, Bobby 10,000 Keller, 250 1, Bobby 10,000 Keller, 250 303; 3, Jimmy Spencer, 321; 4, Ted Musgrave, 310; 5, Matt Crafton, 280; 6, Steve Park, 279 7, Johnny Berson, 271; 8, David Reutimann, 256; 9, Dennis Setzer, 254; 10, Casey Atwood, 51

251 Indy Racing League
1. Dan Wheldon 53; 2. Sam Hornish Jr. 40; 3. Tony Kanaan 35; 4. Vitor Meira 32; 5. Helio Castroneves 30; 6. Darren Manning 28; 7. Patrick Carpenter 26; 8. Alex Barron 24; 9. A.J. Foyt IV 22; 10. Paul Dana 20.

n. A. ryy, i v Zz.; 10. Paul Dana 20.
Formula One
1. Glancarlo Fisichella, Italy, Renault, 10; 2.
Rubens Barrichello, Brazil, Ferrari, 8; 3.
Fernando Alorso, Spain, Renault, 6; 4. David
Coulhard, Pritain, Red Bull, 2; 5. Mark Webtoya, Colombia, McLaren, 3; 7. Christian
Kilen, Austria, Red Bull, 2; 8. Kimi Raikkonen,
Finland, McLaren, 1.

Skiing

World Cup Thursday At Lenzerheide, Switzerland Women's downhill nate Goetschl, Austria, 1 minute,

Women's downhill

1. Renate Goetschl, Austria, 1 mint
26.89, seconds.

2. Ingrid Jacquemod, France, 1:27.46.

3. Hilde Gerg, Germany, 1:27.56.

4. Julia Mancuso, United States, 1:27.73. (tie) Janica Kostelic, Croatia, 1:27.73. Michaela Dorfmeister, Austria, 1:28.15. Daniela Ceccarelli, Italy, 1:28.25.

Michaela Dorrmeister, Austria, 1:28.1:
 Daniela Coccarelli, Italy, 128.25.
 September 1: 28.25.
 Petra Haltmayr, Germany, 1:28.35.
 Petra Haltmayr, Germany, 1:28.36.
 Final World Cup downhill standings.
 Renata Goetschi, Austria, 57 points.
 Hillor Goetschi, Austria, 57 points.
 Hillor Goetschi, Austria, 432.
 Haltmay Go

Anja Paerson, Sweden, 209 Sylviane Berthod, Switzerland, J. Julia Mancuso, United States, World Cup overall standin (After 30 races) and, 207. (After 30 races)
Anja Paerson, Sweden, 1,273 points.
Janica Kostelic, Croatia, 1,228.
Renate Goetschi, Austria, 1,074.
Michaela Dorfmeister, Austria, 1,022.
Tanja Poutiainen, Finland, 909. ates, 828

nja Poutlainen, Fillia idsey Kildow, United ide Gerg, Germany, 7 na Maze, Slovenia, 61 Julia Mancuso, United States, 598.
 Marlies Schild, Austria. 589.

Tennis

Pacific Life Open

Wednesday
At The Indian Wells Tennis Garden
Indian Wells, Calif.
Purse: Men, \$2,724,600 (Masters); Women,
\$2,724,600 (Irier I)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles

Women First Round

First Round
Kim Clijsters, Belgium, dei Nicole Pratt,
Australia, 6-2, 6-1.
Slivija Taiaja, Croatia, def. Arantxa Parra
Slivija Taiaja, Croatia, def. Arantxa Parra
Slivija Taiaja, Croatia, def. Arantxa Parra
Abigail Spears, United States, def. Lubomira
Kurlajcva, Sovada, 4, 6, 6-3, 7-60.
Maria Kurljeriko, Bussia, def. Tatlana Perra
Tatlana Garbin, taly, def. Anliko Kapros,
Hungary, 6-1, 6-2.
Evà Birnerova, Creeh Republic, def. TamaEvà Birnerova, Creeh Republic, def. Tama-EVB Birnerova, Czech Republic, def. Tama-rine Tanasugar, Titalland, 6-4, 6-2, etc., Maria Emilia Salerni, Argentina, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, Laura Granville, United States, def. Maris-sa irvin, United States, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, Severine Beltrame, France, def. Defica States, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, Denisa Charles, Carlos Carlos, Carlos Carlos, C no, rrance, 6-3, 6-0. Jamea Jackson, United States, def. Anca Barna, Germany, 7-6 (4), 6-4.

SSU HIRED THE SAME AD ASSNCY

NIKE USES.

Nuria Llagostera Vives, Spain, def. Camille Pin, France, 6-4. 6-0 Pin, France, 6-4, 6-0, Dally Randriantefy, Madagascar, def. Vir-inia Ruano Pascual, Spain, 7-6 (6), 6-1. Anna Chakyetadze, Russia, def. Martina ucha, Slovakia, 6-0, 7-5. Rika Fujiwara, Japan, def. Alina Jidkova, tussia, 6-3. Mariana Diaz-Oliva, Argentina, def. Kristi-na Brandi, Puerto Rico, 6-4, 6-2.

Military basketball

USAFE small units

RAF FAIRFORD, England — Results of the 2005 USAFE small units basketball tournanent, a pool-jolay event that endS Saturday: Wednesday's games Rhein-Main T2, St. Mawgan 70 Keflavik 73, Stawager 63 Gellenkirchen 90, Rhein-Main 65 Merwith Hill 75, Croughton 55 Keflavik 76, Fairlord 72

Kellavik 76, Fairbrof 72
Alconbury 6, Fairbrof 72
Alconbury 6, Fairbrof 72
Alconbury 6, Fairbrof 73
Fairbrof 80, Fairbrof 76
Fairbrof 80, Fairbrof 76
Fairbrof 80, Fairbrof 76
Fairbrof 81, Fairbrof 76
Fairbrof 81, Fairbr

Friday
Consolation games, 10 a.m., noon and 2

Consolation (games, av monos)
Semifinals, 4 and 6 p.m.
Semidinals, 4 and 6 p.m.
Saturday
Third place, 10 p.m.
Champiorship, noon
Champiorship
Cha

Deals

Wednesday's transactions RASFRALL

TAXEBALL

THE ACT OF THE STATE American League CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Rea

az to their minor league camp.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
ARIZONA CARDINALS—Re-signed DE Peppi LEIDER CARDINALS—Re-Signed DE Péppi celliner to a two-year contract. Released QB shaun King and WR Karl Williams. ATLANTÁ FALCONS—Signed LB Ike Reese. BALTIMORE RAVENS—Released DB Corey uller and FB Harold Morrow. GREEN BAY PACKERS—Re-signed OL Brad

Bedell, HOUSTON TEXANS—Signed CB Lewis Sand-ers. FB Jarrod Baxter, DE Corey Sears and S mmons.

| DOLPHINS—Signed LB Donnie ason Sir MIAMI MIAM DOLPHINS—Signed LB Donnie pragan to a two-year contract.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Re-signed TE Jer-nature Wggins to a five-year contract. NEW YORK GIANTS—Signed QB Jim Miller. ST. LOUIS RAMS—Re-signed G Darnell Arord and TE ROMAN CONTRACT CONTRACT

tracts.

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—Agreed to terms with WR Keenan McCardell on a two-year contract extension through the 2007 season.

USA WATER POLO—Named Bill Barnett U.S. women's Olympic coach and Heather Moody and Bernice Owing assistant coach-

SOCCER

D.C. UNITED—Signed D Bobby Boswell and
D Tim Merritt to developmental roster con-

acts.

COLLEGE

ARKANSAS STATE—Signed Dickey Nutt,
nen's basketball coach, to a three-year con-

ract extension.

CAL STATE-LOS ANGELES—Announced the etirement of Dave Yanai, men's basketball oacn. BELHAVEN—Announced the resignation of Dale Hatcher, men's basketball coach.

BUFFALO—Named Jim Lodes women's vol-

eyball coach.
HOWARD—Fired Frankie Allen, men's basnuwaku—hired rrankie Alien, men's bas-lethali coach.

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT—Fired Steve Ag-lers, men's basketball coach.

MARSHALL—Announced the retirement of sob Pruett, football coach. Bob Pruett, football coach, MINNESOTA STATE—Named Ken Gordon defensive coordinator, MISSISSIPPI—Agreed to terms with Rod Barnes, men's basketball coach, on a four-year contract through the 2008-09 sea-

Tour-year contract through the zous-us season.

NTC TECHNOLOGY—Named Dee Perez women's softball coach and Frank Torres women's assistant softball coach.

NOTE of the season of the seas

Sandy Xenos, women's tennis coach. Named Pam Arpe women's tennis coach. Named TEMPLE—Named Paul Lounsberry offen-

RACING STRIPES A WEEKLY LOOK AT MOTORSPORTS



Rusty Wallace, right, who plans to retire from full-time competition after this season, is tired of the week-to-week grind of the 10-month Nextel Cup season. Wallace plans to focus on his family as well as his Busch Series team and car dealership when he's done racing full-time.

'Rusty's Last Call'

Wallace chasing Cup one more time before semi-retirement

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS The Associated Press

usty Wallace never said he wouldn't race again. He even wonders at times if he's making the right decision to retire from full-time NASCAR competition after the 2005 season.

When he can't sleen Wallace stares at the ceiling in the middle of the night thinking about things he did in the past, or what he'll do when he's not racing 10 months a year

"I'm all over." he said of his thoughts. "Honestly, I'm not con-tent at all."

But the 48-year-old Wallace is sure about one thing: He's tired of the week-to-week grind.

"I'm retiring because I'm just burnt out in the schedule," he said. "If I get through the end of 2005, and I feel like, 'Man, I'm running 3,000 mph and now they tell me I've got to stop,' I'm proba bly going to say let's run about 10 [races the next year]. But for sure, my days of running the full schedule are over.'

After one more championship chase, that is,

Wallace began this season with



a 14th-place finish in the Budweiser Shootout. His 22nd Nextel Cup season, which has been dubbed "Rusty's Last Call." officially got under way with a 10th-place finish in the Daytona 500, the race he can't claim among his 55 wins and the one he wanted the most.

"I wanted to win this race, but that's OK," said Wallace, who started 36th and advanced all the way to fifth before dropping back. "It really isn't OK, but I told evervbody if I didn't win, it wouldn't be the end of the world. ... I'm done with it. I've had a lot of fun, and I enjoy it.

Wallace, who wrecked during Daytona qualifying and had to switch to his backup car, finished in the top 10 nine times in 23 Daytona 500s

His best finish in NASCAR's most prestigious race was third in 2001 He led another time with 10 laps to go, and in 1993 was third "with me, Dale Jarrett and (Dale) Earnhardt going for the win' when he was hit by another car and barrel-rolled down the backstretch.

"I haven't won the Daytona 500 and I doubt there's too many people out there who are not aware of that fact," said Wallace, the 1989 series champion and fourth on the career earnings list with nearly \$44 million. "I got close many, many times.

Still, his farewell season is about more than that elusive Daytona win. And forget nostalgia Wallace wants to approach 2005 like any other year.

"I'm real intent to try to win more races," he said. "I want to go out on top. I don't want to go out fading. ... I'm going to be rockin' and rollin' and go wide open all year.

Wallace has finished top 10 in season points 16 times. He ended a 105-race winless streak last vear but was still 16th, two spots

lower than in 2003 when a streak of 10 straight top-10 seasons ended.

"You always hear about the importance of making first impres-sions," he said, "But for us, we're determined to leave some great last impressions."

Once full-time driving is done, Wallace won't be bored. He hopes the Busch Series

team he owns, running its first full schedule this year, will be a championship contender by 2006. He also will spend more time

on his car dealership business and with 17-year-old son Stephen, an aspiring NASCAR driver who will race in the Hooters Pro Cup Series this year.

Not to mention more time with his wife, Patti, playing golf and his duties as part-owner of the Penske team

"What I'm going to have to do is just get in and go, and figure it out as I go," Wallace said. "We'll adjust as the year goes on. I've never gone one year in my life where I've been able to plan two vears ahead. For me, to plan two weeks ahead is pretty tough for

"There will be a lot of excitement. Sometimes there will be tears in your beer."

NEXTEL CUP

Race 2: UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400 Las Vegas Speedway 8 p.m. Sunday CET. AFN-Pacific.

Last race: Greg Biffle took the lead on lap 228 and held off a hard-charging Jimmie Johnson to win the Auto Club 500 at Fontana, Calif., on Feb. 27. Biffle twice came hack from as far as 30th place

Last year: Matt Kenseth won his second straight race by taking the UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400.

Driver to watch: Matt Kenseth



After 2 of 36 rec

Kurt Busch340
Jimmie Johnson335
Mark Martin301
Carl Edwards287
Greg Biffle273
Elliott Sadler272
Tony Stewart268
Rusty Wallace268
Sterling Marlin260
). Jeff Gordon258
L. Dale Jarrett248
2. Ryan Newman246
8. Kevin Harvick239
I. Dale Earnhardt Jr237
5. Mike Bliss236
3. Kyle Petty231
7. Jamie McMurray227
3. Scott Riggs224
). Kevin Lepage208

IFN-Sports).

Last race: Defending champion Martin ruex Jr. held on after an early pit stop to vin the Telcel-Motorola 200 in Mexico City, nn the Teicel-Motorola 200 in Mexico City ne circuit's first race outside the U.S. Next race: Aaron's 312, March 19, Hamp

FORMULA ONE

singe. Iext race: Malaysian Grand Prix, March

route to a dominant win in the s opening Toyota Indy 300 at Homeste

Last race: Stove Dark earned his first truck

Last rates seeve Park earnies in Sinst ruce, series win by taking the American Racing Wheels 200 at Fontana, Calif., on Feb. 25. Park's previous victory came in the Nextel Cup series in February 2001, seven months before he suffered a serious head injury.

Next race: World Financial Group 200, March 18, Hampton, Ga.

Standings for other series on Page 24.

Congress subpoenas 7 baseball players

BY HOWARD FENDRICH

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Major League Baseball might be convinced that its new get-tough policy is enough to rid the sport

Congress, apparently, is not.

Less than two months after baseball and its players hailed the banned-substances plan — and just a week after testing began at spring training — a House committee called in a handful of the sport's biggest to explain themselves, including Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa.

Baseball balked at the subpoenas issued Wednesday for a total of seven players to testify at the March 17 hearing of the House Government Reform Committee and vowed to take the fight to court, if necessary. The committee also demanded a variety of documents and records of base ball's drug tests.

Stanley Brand, a lawyer for the baseball commissioner's office, said the committee had no jurisdiction, was trying to violate baseball's first amendment privacy rights and was attempting to "satisfy their prurient interest into who may and may not have engaged in this activity

Reacting to Brand's comments, commit-tee spokesman David Marin said: "Mr. Brand has his facts wrong. He failed to rec ognize that House rules give this committee the authority to investigate any matter at any time, and we are authorized to request or compel testimony and document production related to any investigation

"It's a shame that Major League Base

Panel chair calls for all U.S. sports to adopt a single drug-testing plan

ball has resorted to hiding behind 'legalese' - and inaccurate 'legalese' at

On Thursday, the chairman of a House panel said that all major U.S. sports leagues should work toward a single test-

"Our elite athletic organizations, both professional and amateur, should establish uniform, world-class, drug-testing standards that are as consistent and robust as our criminal laws in this area," said Rep. Cliff Stearns, R-Fla., "Nothing less should be tolerated."

Stearns' comments came at the opening of a hearing of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee he chairs. Labor lawyers from Major League Baseball and the National Football League were to testify

The other players subpoenaed to appear next week were Jose Canseco - who recently published a book outlining allega-tions of steroid use by McGwire and others — Jason Giambi, Curt Schilling, Rafael Palmeiro and Frank Thomas. Also called were players' association head Donald Fehr, baseball executive vice presidents Rob Manfred and Sandy Alderson, and San Diego Padres general manager Kevin Towto testify, with Manfred appearing on behalf of commissioner Bud Selig. Before the subpoenas were issued, Brand told the committee the other players were declining invitations to appear

It wasn't immediately clear whether the hearing will take place as scheduled.

Under pressure from Congress and under the shadow of a grand jury investigation into an alleged steroid-distribution ring, Major League Baseball and its players' association agreed in January to a tougher steroid-testing program. The ers for 10 days and randomly test players year-round

Ownership and the union patted themselves on the back when the deal was struck, with Fehr saying at the time: "I will be surprised if over time this doesn't take care of the problem virtually completely."

Even Sen. John McCain, who had threatened baseball with legislation if it didn't strengthen its drug policy, sounded satis-fied back in January: "It appears to be a significant breakthrough."

On Saturday, Selig announced that the

number of positive tests for steroids in baseball dropped to between 1 to 2 percent

'I am very confident that we will effec-

ing season," he said.
But committee chairman Rep. Tom

Davis and ranking Democrat Rep. Henry Waxman said in a statement Wednesday that "we need to better understand the steps MLB is taking to get a handle on the steroid issue, and whether news of those steps — and the public health danger posed by steroid use — is reaching America's vouth." Stearns' House Commerce. Trade and

Consumer Protection subcommittee also was scheduled to hear from Donald Hooton of Plano, Texas, whose son was a steroid user and committed suicide, and Dr. Ralph Hale, chairman of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, which oversees drug testing for Olympic sports.

Chairman, Joe Barton, R-Texas, said this could be the first of a series of hearings on the issue and that at some point subpo might be issued for commissioners of the major sports leagues.

Energy and

Commerce Committee

The time has come to put an end to this mess and reclaim sports as competition, he said.

Barton said use of performance-enhancing drugs is tainting sports and its stars, noting that as San Francisco Giants star Barry Bonds pursues the career home run record there are questions about whether he has been aided by steroids.

'With Babe Ruth, people didn't worry about him taking steroids. They worried him eating another hot dog," Barton said. Associated Press Writer Larry Margasak in Wash-ington and AP Sports Writer Ronald Blum in New York contributed to this report.

Bonds works on fielding skills

The Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. - Barry Bonds' swing looks ready to be tested in an exhibition game. The status of his recovering right knee remains uncertain

Bonds took batting practice for the third straight day Wednesday and also shagged flyballs in left field for the first time all spring, a sign that he's progressing in his rehabilitation from arthroscopic knee surgery on Jan. 31

The San Francisco slugger had four turns in the batter's box at Scottsdale Stadium before the rest of the Giants headed to Phoenix to play the Oakland Athletics.

With hitting coach Joe Lefebvre looking on, Bonds hit four home runs, all to right field or right-center. One hit a tree. "It's like Ted Williams used to

hit," manager Felipe Alou said. "He picks up the bat, hits line drives and puts the ball over the fence. He's still favoring his knee a bit, but the timing is there

Between hitting sessions, Bonds smiled as he leaned against the backstop, and took a few practice swings while waiting his turn.

Bonds hollered at himself in frustration after some swings, but made contact on nearly everything he saw.

In left field, he shagged balls for about five minutes, even making a behind-the-back catch. The 40-year-old Bonds expects to be ready for opening day April 5 against the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Back at his locker for a brief break to change shoes for a work-

Spring training

out and to undergo rehab on his knee, Bonds let out a sigh and said, "I'm too tired." Bonds begins his 20th big

league season with 703 homers third on the career list behind Babe Ruth (714) and Hank Aaron

At Mesa, Ariz., rather than risking serious injury, Kerry Wood figured it was safer to cut short his start after experiencing tightness in his shoulder. Wood felt tightness during the second inning of the Chicago Cubs' 6-5 loss to the Texas Rangers, but finished the inning. He stopped while warming for the third and walked off the field after talking with a trainer. He called his exit from the game "precautionary

"The inning before, I felt tight-ness in the shoulder," Wood said. "Everything felt great. I came in and sat down, and everything felt great. It was just a little bit of tightness, and it's too early to be messing around with anything right now. We thought it would be best to shut it down for the day.

Wood missed the entire 1999 eason after undergoing Tommy John surgery and he was out for two months last year with tendinitis in his right triceps. Wood was examined Wednesday by a team doctor and Cubs trainer Mark O'Neal, who described the ailment as "generic shoulder tight-

Wood said he would be able to make his scheduled start Monday against the Chicago White Sox.

At Sarasota, Fla., the Cincinnati Reds announced center fielder Ken Griffey Jr will play Thurs. day for the first time this spring after taking a slow approach to his rehabilitation from a torn hamstring. The Reds plan to use Griffey as a designated hitter in their home game against the Detroit after receiving permission from the league and the Tigers. He also has permission to be the DH in Cincinnati's next three home games.

"It gives me a chance to see some live pitches, to work more on timing," Griffey said.

At Fort Myers, Fla., the Boston Red Sox expect Wade Miller to miss the first month of the season while he rehabilitates from a shoulder injury. He spent the last three months of last season on the disabled list with Houston. The Red Sox, hoping he could improve a rotation that lost Pedro Martinez and Derek Lowe, signed him as a free agent.

"I know I don't want to miss that much time again," Miller said "So I decided to take it slow now and miss the beginning of the season and, hopefully, come back for the last five months."

Heavy rains across Florida prompted the cancellation of all 10 exhibition games scheduled for Wednesday

In Kissimmee, Roger Clemens threw 60 pitches in a simulated game rather than wait to see if the Houston Astros and Atlanta Braves would play

Royals 6. Mariners 0: At Surprise. Jose Lima gave up five sin-



Giants outfielder Barry Bonds, who is recovering from knee surgery, took part in fielding drills Wednesday for the first time this spring.

gles and walked three in three innings for Kansas City. Angel Berroa had three hits - two doubles - two RBIs and two runs scored.

Athletics 5. Giants 1: At Phoenix, Giants ace Jason Schmidt allowed three hits in three innings with three strikeouts and a walk.

Receiver Coles happy to be a Jet again

NEW YORK - Laveranues Coles took some parting shots at the New York Jets when he left for Washington. Two years later. Coles is back in the good graces

Coles passed a physical with the Jets on Wednesday, making his trade from the Redskins complete after nearly two weeks of on-again, off-again talks. In re-turn, the Redskins get former first-round pick Santana Moss. who has vet to live up to his potential

When Coles was done with his exam at team headquarters in Hempstead, N.Y. he saw Chad Pennington and gave the quarterback a bear hug. For Coles, it was good to be back with the Jets. where he started his career and developed a strong relationship with coach Herman Edwards and Pennington

"The guys here are all excited being here and that's what's important." Coles said on a conference call. "When I was here I really enjoyed myself. This is where I started and I had a great relationship with everyone here, so it was very good for me to come back.

His relationship with Edwards appeared to turn sour when Coles left the Jets in 2003, after the team failed to match a lucrative offer from the Redskins. Coles criticized Edwards because he was given multiple assurances the team would keep him, but has since apologized.

"Well, back then I was very immature about the business side of it and now I understand it." Coles said. "But I think my emotions got involved and I said some things I shouldn't have said.'

Coles might not be the only other player on the move. Two-time NFL rushing champion



Edgerrin James could wind up on the trading block. Also Wednesday, Keenan McCardell re-signed with San Diego, Ricky Proehl decided to return to Carolina for his 16th season, and tight end Jermaine Wiggins re-signed with Minnesota.

It didn't take long for Coles to voice his displeasure in Washington, where he was unhappy with the conservative offense of new coach Joe Gibbs last season and asked for a trade. Coles would only say he felt "uncomfortable" with the team, but said he and Gibbs are still on good terms.

There were questions about a chronic toe injury that hampered Coles the last two seasons. The Redskins wanted him to have surgery, but Coles was reluctant to undergo any procedure. Coles refused to elaborate about the toe saying only that he passed his physical.

James could end up being a big bargain for someone. Agent Drew Rosenhaus says the Indianapolis Colts aren't demanding a first-round draft pick in exchange

for the star running back. James, the Colts' career rushing leader, was designated the franchise player last month. Now Rosenhaus, who said he spoke with Colts president Bill Polian on Wednesday, is looking

"The bottom line is that I talked to the Colts today, and he doesn't think he can get a long-term deal done," Rosenhaus said

Polian told The Associated Press he would not discount trading James, who has carried a franchise-record 1.828 times, more



Wide receiver Laveranues Coles passed his physical on Wednesday, making his trade from the Washington Redskins back to the New York lets complete

than all but four of the NFL's top 10 rushers had in their first six years. He is just 26 and coming off his best season since tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in

his left knee in 2001 James rushed for 1,548 yards and nine touchdowns, caught 51 passes for 483 yards and earned his third selection to the AFC Pro

Bowl team in 2004. The non-exclusive franchise tag would cost the Colts slightly more than \$8 million. If another team signed James and the Colts did not match the offer within seven days, Indianapolis would

get two first-round draft picks. McCardell, 35, got the payday he was seeking in San Diego, with a \$4.1 million signing bonus, according to a source with knowledge of the deal who spoke on condition of anonymity. With the ex-tension, McCardell will average

\$3.45 million the next three years. McCardell was the NFL's last holdout in 2004, missing the first six games - and nearly \$710,000 in nav - hecause he was unhan"fair market" deal he wanted He was traded to San Diego on Oct.

Proehl, who turned 37 Monday, had been contemplating retire ment since late last season, but decided to play a final year after a lengthy meeting with Panthers coach John Fox.

Wiggins found a home in Minnesota, where he had 71 catches for 705 yards and four touchdowns. The 30-year-old tight end agreed to a five-year, \$7.3 million contract

Arizona re-signed defensive end Peppi Zellner to a two-year contract and released quarterback Shaun King and wide receiver Karl Williams

Atlanta signed linebacker and Pro Bowl special teams player Ike Reese. The 6-foot-2, 222-pound Reese, who spent seven seasons in Philadelphia, is considered one of the best special teams players in the NFL

Baltimore cut cornerbact Corey Fuller, a 10-year veteran cornerback and special teams ace Harold Morrow.

The New York Giants, who lost Kurt Warner to Arizona, signed 11-year veteran Jim Miller as a backup to Eli Manning.

Linebacker Donnie Spragan signed a two-year, \$2 million deal with the Miami Dolphins, agent Angelo Wright said.

In deals on Thursday: ■ Pittsburgh Steelers kicker Jeff Reed signed a \$7.5 million, five-year contract that includes a \$1.5 million signing bonus to stay

with the team. The deal was agreed to earlier this week.

■ The New Orleans Saints signed free-agent tight end Shad Meier to a two-year deal and re-signed defensive tackle Howard Green to a one-year deal

Davis: Army star also famous for his modesty

DAVIS. FROM BACK PAGE

"I wasn't the kind of guy who liked to pick the newspaper up to find out how I was doing. I just did my thing the best I could," Davis told the AP in 1995. "We played offense and defense and it wasn't an individual accom-plishment. We all won or lost together," he said in 1999.

Davis, who also lettered in baseball, track and basketball. visited West Point for the final time in October to be inducted into Army's Sports Hall of

Born in Claremont, Davis attended college with his late twin brother, Ralph, and later worked as a special events director for the Los Angeles Times for nearly 30 years after leaving football.

Several years ago, he donat-ed his Heisman to his high

Besides his son, Davis is sur-vived by his third wife, Yvonne Ameche Davis, and a stepson, John S. Slack III from his second marriage. Davis' first marriage to Oscar-nominated actress Terry Moore ended in divorce after 14

Davis, who also briefly dated Elizabeth Taylor, met Yvonne at the 1996 Heisman dinner. She was previously married to 1954 Heisman winner Alan Ameche of Wiscon-

Associated Press writers Beth Harris and John Nadel contributed to this report.

Spare Tire Carrier



This Tek can supply the accessories to allow you to modify a HMMWV equipped with or without an existing bumper to accept our Patented Mechanically Assisted Spare Tire Carrier (MASTC) and Jerry Can Holder (JCH). Both Syste of way of the back of the vehicle to access to the rear comparts

- ¥ Spare Tire Carrier allows one person to easily change the tire ¥ Optional tool/storage box available
- * Bumper assembly kit allows those HMMWV's without humners to
- easily add MASTC & ICH
- ¥ Retains existing tie down hooks, electrical connector and trailer hitch
- ¥ Will not interfere with towing a trailer ¥ All parts are powder coated to prevent corrosion

with our product and we'll ad you a FREE Ibis Tek T-Shir ZCSA#CS-07F-5505R

Sorlie maintains lead in Iditarod

The Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska - Norwegian Robert Sorlie held fast to his lead Wednesday in the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, followed by the two mushers who trailed him in his 2003 victory: Ramy Brooks and Jeff King.

Sorlie, a 47-year-old firefighter, was first out of the Ophir checkpoint, leaving at 9:25 a.m. for the 90-mile run to the next checkpoint at the long-abandoned mining town of Iditarod

From there, it's a 590-mile trek to the Nome finish line on Alas-

Sorlie also commanded an early lead in the 2003 race, only his second run in the 1,100-mile Iditarod. As it was that year, Sor-lie's run is hampered in the current race by insomnia, he said this week

Next out of Ophir on Wednes day was Brooks, who followed Sorlie at 10:31 a.m., and King, a three-time Iditarod winner who departed the checkpoint at 11:09

Parts of the race so far has been marked by unseasonably warm weather - high tempera tures above freezing - filling the trail with sloshy pools of water in some areas.



Knights' shield

Shields paces Rutgers past Irish; Georgetown, W. Virginia also win

BY JIM O'CONNELL

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ricky Shields had never played beyond the first round of the Big East tournament. The senior guard from Rutgers finally got that victory Wednesday night and may have ended the



NCAA tournament hopes of Notre Dame. "That was one of the goals

I wanted to achieve before I left here," Shields said. "I did not want it to end without that."

It won't. Shields scored 21 points, includ-

ing the first four of Rutgers' game-closing 8-0 run, and the Scarlet Knights beat Notre Dame 72-65.

Rutgers (10-18), seeded 11th, advanced to a matchup with third-seeded and 16th-ranked Syracuse (24-6) in the quarterfinals on Thursday night at Madison Square Garden.

"Now we get a chance to match up with Syracuse again," Shields said, recalling an 86-84 loss to the Orange in which the Scarlet Knights blew an 18-point half-time lead. "It feels good to have all five guys clicking like we did early in the year and maybe we can keep clicking here for some more wins."

The loss may have ended the NCAA tournament at-large hopes for Notre Dame (17-11), which has lost four of five.

"We'll find out our fate on Sunday," Irish coach Mike Brey said in ending talk about an at-large Shields scored on a drive with 1:15 left to give the Scarlet Knights the lead for good at 66-65. He then stole the ball from Colin Falls and went the length of the court for a layup with 57 seconds left.

Rutgers closed the game by going 4-for-5 from the free-throw line over the final 32 seconds.

Georgetown 56, Seton Hall 51: Darrel Owens was perfect on four three-point attempts and scored all 14 of his points over the final eight minutes as Georgetown (17-11) snapped a five-game losing streak.

The seventh-seeded Hoyas had to win to have any chance at an at-large berth in the NCAA tournament. Their next opponent is second-seeded and 12th-ranked Connecticut (21-6) in the quarterfinals Thursday night.

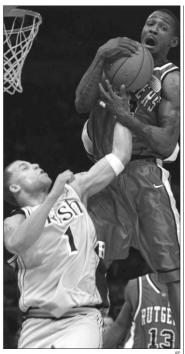
Owens' first three-pointer ended a 7:42 drought without a field goal and brought the Hoyas within 44-36 with 7:59 left.

His third three, with 3:37 left, cut the deficit to 49-46 and his last gave Georgetown the lead for good at 51-49 with 1:02 left

West Virginia 82, Providence 59: Kevin Pittsnogle matched his career high with five three-pointers and finished with 24 points for the Mountaineers (19-9).

The eighth-seeded Mountainers played top-seeded and seventh-ranked Boston College (24-3) on Thursday in the quarterfinals at Madison Square Garden. West Virginia may have

clinched an NCAA tournament berth with its seventh victory in nine games, a stretch that included two victories over nationally ranked Pittsburgh.



Rutgers' Ricky Shields (2) grabs a rebound away from Notre Dame's Chris Thomas (1) during Wednesday night's Big East tournament game at Madison Square Garden. Rutgers advanced with a 72-65 victory.

TCU stops Marquette; DePaul's skid ends

The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Coney Santee's three-pointer with 12.8 seconds gave Texas Christian a 60-57 overtime victory against Marquette in the opening round of the Conference USA tournament Wednesday, keepiong alive the Horned Frogs' hopes of an NCAA tournament bid and severely damaging Marquette's bones.

Conference USA Aaron Curtis' free throw tied it 57-57 with 18.8 seconds to go, leaving Mar-

quette (19-11) plenty of time to go for a final shot. But Marcus Sloan slapped away the inbounds pass — the last of Marquette's 23 turnovers — and got the ball to Santee for the deciding basket.

Marquette still had time for a tying shot, but Steve Novak mishandled the ball at the top of the key and couldn't get off a shot before time expired.

DePaul 81, Tulane 71: Sammy Mejia and Quemont Greer each scored 18 points as DePaul (19-9) snapped a two-game losing streak just in time to keep its NCAA tournament hopes alive.

Drake Diener added 14 points for DePaul and Draelon Burns had 10 points

Tulane (10-18) had snapped a five-game winning skid by beating East Carolina last weekend to earn the No. 12 seed, but the Green Wave had little left for the tournament.

Tulane closed to 37-30 with 1:11 left in the half, but Diener hit two three-pointers and Burns added another three with 39.7 seconds left for a 46-32 halfime lead. DePaul eventually pushed the margin to 65-46 after a bucket by Jamal Nichols with 12:34 to go and coasted home.

Memphis 79, Saint Louis 59: Rodney Carney ended his shooting slump with 23 points and Jeremy Hunt added 22 for Memphis (17-14), which ended a four-game losing streak that doomed its hopes for an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament.

Carney, who'd missed 18 of his last 19 shots, missed only one of nine Wednesday and hit all three of his three-point attempts.

Luke Meyer had 12 points to lead Saint Louis (9-21), which got no closer than 20 points in the final 8:38.

South Florida 69, Houston 64: Terrence Leather, who finished with 25 points and 14 rebounds, hit a basket to snap a 64-64 tie with 26 seconds left and the Bulls (13-15) ended the NCAA hones of

Houston (18-13) and first-year coach Tom Penders. Houston has lost eight straight games in March dating back to March 1, 2003.

Lanny Smith finished with 21 points for Houston.

La Salle tips Massachusetts in overtime

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — Jermaine Thomas and Mike St. John scored all 11 points in overtime to lead La Salle to a 70-64 victory over Massachusetts in the first round of the Atlantic 10 tournament. La Salle (10-18), which finished

last in the conference's West Division, played the last two minutes of regulation and the overtime period without leading scorer Steven Smith, who left with an eye injury after scoring 19 points. St. John broke a 61-61 tie with a

St. John broke a 61-61 tie with a reverse layup after his first shot was blocked. He was 4-for-4 in overtime, and Thomas hit three free throws in four attempts in the final 49.9 seconds.

Rashaun Freeman had 19 points for UMass (16-12), which came from 12 down to force overtime. The Minutemen had won five games in overtime this season, one short of the NCAA record set by Wake Forest in 1983-1984.

Richmond 68, Rhode Island 60: Kevin Steenberge scored 22

Conference tourneys

points as Richmond (14-14) won an Atlantic 10 tournament matchup of teams with losing records.

Jermaine Bucknor added 17 points and Andres Sandoval added 10, six coming on free throws in the final minute.

Will Daniels had 22 points for Rhode Island (6-22), which lost 11 of its last 13 games and finished 1-13 away from home.

Fordham 65, Duquesne 53: Freshman Marcus Stout scored a season-high 31 points and Fordham (13-15) finally earned an Atlantic 10 tournament victory in its 10th try.

Fordham had lost the opener each year since joining the conference in the 1995-1996. Duquesne (8-22) was 0-for-21

on three-pointers and lost for the third time in four games.

Dayton 78, St. Bonaventure 48: Norman Plummer scored 18 points and Dayton (18-10) earned a rematch with Temple in the second round of the A-10 tourney.

Dayton (18-10), which finished third in the West Division, dropped a 78-70 decision last month to Temple, which was second in the East Division.

Michael Lee scored 14 points for St. Bonaventure (2-26).

Big West

UC Irvine 80, Idaho 67: At Anaheim, Calif., Aaron Fitzgerald scored a career-high 30 points on 9-for-15 shooting to lead UC Irvine into the second round of the Big West turnament.

UC Irvine (16-12), seeded fifth, plays fourth-seeded Cal State Northridge in the second round.

Idaho (8-22) closed within three after Lionel Davis completed a three-point play with 2:26 to play, but Fitzgerald stopped the rally with his sixth three-pointer of the game, putting the Anteaters up 73-67 with 1:59 to play.

UC Santa Barbara 55, Long Beach St. 49: Joe See scored 19 points — 14 in the second half — as UC Santa Barbara overcame a 12-point second-half deficit.

See, held without a field goal in the first half, went 3-for-4 from behind the three-point line in the second half for the Gauchos (11-17). Long Beach (10-20) led 43-31

with 12:32 to play after an 11-1 run featuring eight points by Jibril Hodges. Santa Barbara reponded by scoring the next 11 points, the start of a 21-3 surge.

MEAC

Hampton 81, Florida A&M
72: At Richmond, Va., Jeff Granger scored 26 points and Devin Green added 24 as Hampton (16-12) advanced to the second round of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference tournament.

Delaware St. 66, Bethune-Cookman 43: Darris and Aaron Williams and Jahsha Bluntt each added 12 to lead Delaware State (17-13), which jumped to a 17-3 lead and cruised from there over Bethune-Cookman (6-20).

Montana, Fairleigh Dickinson join the fun



Montana's Matt Dlouhy (40) blocks a shot by Weber State's Lance Allred during the first half of the Big Sky Conference tournament final.

The Associated Press

PORTLAND. Ore. first-year coach Larry Krystkow iak sees it, the Montana Grizzlies are in the best possible position heading into the NCAA tournament. They're riding a six-game winning streak and they've al-ready tasted a higher level of play against opponents such as Stanford and Gonzaga

"I'm not sure we can compete with everybody, but we're going to go down swinging," he said. "We've got a game plan now, and we're going to take our best shot."

Montana earned a bid to the NCAA tournament by holding off Weber State's late rally for a 63-61 victory in the Big Sky Conference title game Wednesday night. Kamarr Davis had 19 points for the Grizzlies, who are making their first trip to the tournament since 2002, when they were eliminated in the first round by Oregon.

Montana, which claimed its fifth Big Sky postseason title, didn't have it easy against Weber State, methodically which chipped away at a 10-point second-half deficit

Montana was up 54-44 with 4:17 left after Virgil Matthews

The Wildcats narrowed it to on Terrell Stovall's three-pointer with 1:03 left. Mon-

Conference finals

tana's Kevin Criswell missed a layup before Stovall was called for an offensive foul on the other end and the Grizzlies got the ball. Matt Martin made both his free

throws after getting fouled with 14.4 seconds left to make it 62-58. but Weber State's Coric Riggs hit a three-pointer with 4.2 seconds remaining. Davis was fouled with 2.8 seconds to go and added drama by missing his first free throw before hitting his second for the final margin.

"We just needed to keep our heads," Davis said. "Play hard, play smart and play together like coach has been preaching all vear," he said.

Krystkowiak screamed and raised his hands in victory as his players celebrated at center

A 78-62 loss to Gonzaga and an 84-66 loss to Stanford merely served to toughen the Grizzlies. "We're better now," Krystkow-iak said. "We had a new staff and new players and were not sure

where to hang our hats." Criswell and Martin each added 11 points for the Grizzlies (18-12), who defeated Montana State 79-67 in the semifinals Tues-

Lance Allred had 21 points and 12 rebounds for Weber State (14-16), which upset top-seeded Portland State 71-61 to advance

"We had things going in the st half and couldn't finish it off," Weber State coach Joe Cravens said. "It's disappointing because we didn't play the way we have been '

Northeast

Fairleigh Dickinson 58, Wag-ner 52: At Hackensack, N.J., Italy's Andrea Crosariol took advantage of an injury to Wagner's best player to score 18 points and lead the second-seeded Knights to their first NCAA berth in seven years. The 7-foot center's perfor-mance was two points off Crosariol's career high — and totally un-expected. He scored just two points in 31 minutes in the previous two tournament games, in-cluding zero in a semifinals.

Crosariol provided the big push oing against Sean Munson, the eahawks' leading scorer and rebounder. Munson averaged 17.5 points and 12 rebounds in two ear-lier games against Fairleigh Dickinson (20-8), but he was slowed by back spasms.

Durell Vinson had 14 points and eight rebounds for Wagner (13-17), which was trying to cap an amazing turnaround after a 2-15 start.

Seeding, at-large slots no small chore this year

BY MICHAEL MAROT The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS - Choosing 34 teams to receive at-large bids to the NCAA tournament is always a difficult chore for the selection committee

Committee chairman Bowlsby believes the more daunting task this year will be seeding the field of 65.

On Wednesday, one day before the 10 committee members began meeting in Indianapolis, Bowlsby acknowledged in a conference call that sorting out the top half of the 65-team field might create the most debate.

"Between lines two and eight. it's going to be pretty muddy," Bowlsby said. "We've got a lot of work to do there.'

The challenge has already begun.

Coaches at schools like Indiana and New Mexico are lobbying for spots in the tournament.

Analysts are arguing how to split up the three Atlantic Coast Conference teams ranked among the nation's top five. No. 4 Kentucky and No. 6 Louisville have now taken their bitter in-state rivalry to a national level which could have big implications when this year's pairings are an-

nounced Sunday.
Want more? Try Oklahoma
State and Kansas, two teams that stumbled late in the season but which played in the Big 12 — a conference Bowlsby said has the No. 2 power ranking. At this stage, the committee in-

sists nothing, not even Illinois as a top seed, is certain.

'While Illinois has had a great season, I don't think it's a foregone conclusion that they or any-body else is a No. 1 seed," Bowlsby said. "There's still a lot of basketball to be played."

Most of the major conference tournaments won't end until this weekend, making the commit-

tee's predicament even tougher. Bowlsby, Iowa's athletic director whose Hawkeyes also are in contention for a bid, said the committee will closely monitor this week's games, especially those that pit teams like Indiana and Minnesota against one another. Both are so-called bubble teams and will meet for the third time Friday after splitting the first two meetings.

But it's not just the teams trying to get into the tournament that the committee will watch.

"There are times where we might say 'If A wins, we'll put them on the three line, and if B wins, we'll put them on the three line and A on the four line. Bowlsby said. Everything appears debatable.

The final choices will almost certainly draw some complaints. After five years on the commit-tee, Bowlsby expects nothing

"I think there's more parity in college basketball and I think it's a better game. That makes it tougher," he said. "The selection process is like a block-charge call, somebody will always be un-

Conference tournaments

America East

Championship Saturday Northeastern at Vermont

Atlantic Coast

Thursday
Clemson 84, Maryland 72
North Carolina St. vs. Florida St.
Miami vs. Virginia
Friday
Mosth Carolina vs. Clemson Friday North Carolina vs. Clemson Virginia Tech vs. Georgia Tech Wake Forest vs. N.C. State/Florida St.

Championship

Atlantic 10

Wednesday Richmond 68, Rhode Island 60 La Salle 70, Massachusetts 64, OT La Salle 70, Massachusetts 54, Fordham 65, Duquesne 54, Fordham 65, Duquesne 31, Dayton 78, St. Bonaventure 48 Thursday Saint Joseph's 63, Richmond 51 Xavier vs. La Salle Geo. Washington vs. Fordham Temple vs. Dayton Friday Semifinals Semifinals

Big East

Wednesday West Virginia 82, Providence 59 West Virginia 82, Providence 59 Georgetown 56, Seton Hall 51 Rutgers 72, Notre Dame 65 Quarterfinals Thursday West Virginia 78, Boston College 72 Villanova vs. Pittsburgh

West Virginia Villanova vs. Pittsburgh Connecticut vs. Georgeti Syracuse vs. Notre Dame Friday Semifinals

Saturday

Big Sky

Big Ten

Saturday Sunday Championship

Thursday Missouri 70, Nebraska 67 Iowa State vs. Baylor

Texas A&M vs. Kansas State Texas vs. Colorado Friday Priday
Oklahoma vs. Missouri
Texas Tech vs. Iowa State/Baylor
Kansas vs. Texas A&M/Kansas State Semifinals

Big West

Wednesday
UC Irvine 80, Idaho 67
UC Santa Barbara 55, Long Beach State 49
Thursday
Cal Fullerton vs. UC Santa Barbara
Cal Northridge vs. UC Irvine
Friday

Semifinals

Championship Conference USA

Wednesday Texas Christian 60, Marquette 57, OT Texas Christian 60, Marquett DePaul 81, Tulane 71 Memphis 79, Saint Louis 59 South Florida 69, Houston 64 Thursday Louisville vs. TCU Ala. Birmingham vs. De. ... Charlotte vs. Memphis Cincinnati vs. South Florida Friday

Championship

Mid-American

Thursday Buffalo 85, Toledo 72 W, Michigan vs. Akron Miami (Ohio) vs. Bowling Green

Mid-Eastern Athletic

Wednesday Delaware State 66. Bethune-Cookman 43 Hampton 81, Florida A&M 72 Thursday South Carolina St. vs. Norfo Coppin St. vs. Morgan State Friday nlk St Championship Saturday

Mountain West

Thursday do St. Utah vs. Colorado St. UNLV vs. Wyoming New Mexico vs. Brigham Young Air Force vs. San Diego St. Friday
Utah/Colorado State vs. UNLV/Wyomir
New Mexico/BYU vs. Air Force/San Diego
Saturday
Championship Championship

Northeast

Pac-10

Thursday
Arizona vs. California
UCLA vs. Oregon State
Washington vs. Arizona State
Stanford vs. Washington State
Friday Semifinals Saturday

Patriot

Championship Friday Bucknell at Holy Cross

Southeastern

Thursday South Carolina vs. Mississipp Mississippi State vs. Georgia Mississippi State va. — Arkansas vs. Tennessee Vanderbilt vs. Auburn Friday Alabama vs. S. Carolina/Mississipp Florida vs. Mississippi St./Georgia

Championship Southland

Thursday Semifinals western St Lamar at Northwestern State Sam Houston State at SE Louisiana Sunday Championship

Southwestern Athletic

Thursday ackson St. 57, Mississippi Valley 55 Grambling vs. Soutnern Alabama St. vs. Prairie View A&M Alabama A&M vs. Ark. Pine Bluff

Championship

Western Athletic

Thursday Texas-El Paso vs. Hawaii Semifinals Championship Saturday

Suns avoid sweep by depleted Spurs

PHOENIX - Despite getting a coveted win that kept the San Antonio Spurs from sweeping them this season, the Phoenix Suns aren't likely to get overconfident if the teams meet in the playoffs.

Amare Stoudemire scored 44 NBA roundup

points to lead the Suns to a 107-101 victory against the Spurs, who were playing without in

jured All-Stars Tim Duncan (ankle) and Manu Ginobili (groin).

"I wanted them to play at full strength, to be honest with you," Stoudemire said.

However, it was still satisfying to the Suns, who snapped their longest current losing streak to one team.

Since beating Phoenix in a playoff game on April 27, 2003, the Spurs had won six consecutive regular-season games and two playoff contest against the Suns.

"It takes a little momentum out of you when they are not play-ing," Phoenix's Shawn Marion said. "But at the same time we went out and got the win, and that's all that matters

Suns coach Mike D'Antoni said not to read too much into the ragged, tight game They are an NBA team, and it

is hard to play those teams," he said. "They played a small lineup the whole time, and they had nothing to lose "

The coveted victory wasn't locked up until Stoudemire, who had 13 points in the fourth quarter dunked for a 105-98 lead with 1:19 to go on a play that began with Steve Nash missing a short iumper.

Marion deflected the rebound to Joe Johnson, who shoveled it to Stoudemire underneath.

Just before that play, Tony Massenberg and Tony Parker missed layups that would have lifted the Spurs within three points.

"We definitely ran out of gas in the fourth quarter." said Parker. who had a season-high 30 points despite going scoreless in fourth.
"It just got harder and harder to make stops and get rebounds.

Celtics 95, Hawks 91: Antoine Walker stole the ball from Al Harrington with 35 seconds left and fed Ricky Davis for the clinching basket as host Boston withstood unusually feisty Atlanta.

The Hawks, who have the worst record in the NBA and just two road wins in 32 tries, led for the first 42 minutes and didn't trail until Paul Pierce hit a fallaway jumper with 3:53 left.

Pierce finished with 27 points and 10 rebounds, making 10 of 12 free throws in the fourth quarter to ice the game

Walker had 15 points and nine rebounds for the Celtics, who are 5-1 since getting him from Atlanta at the trading deadline.

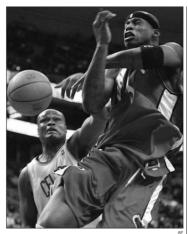
Raptors 106, Magic 96: At Toronto, Chris Bosh had 15 points and 15 rebounds, and six other Toronto players reached double figures in scoring.

Orlando rookie Dwight Orlando rookie Dwight Howard had 17 points and tied a season-high with 20 rebounds for the Magic, who have lost two straight following a three-game wining streak.

Morris Peterson and Rafer Alston each had a team-high 16 points for the Raptors, who are fighting to stay in the playoff race

Pistons 92, Warriors 88: Tayshaun Prince and Antonio McDyess scored 20 points each as host Detroit snapped a three-game losing streak. The Pistons lost the final three

games of a six-game West Coast trip, but were able to beat Golden State to extend their season-best



Boston Celtics' Antoine Walker slaps the ball away from Atlanta Hawks' Al Harrington during the fourth quarter of Boston's 95-91 win.

home win streak to eight. Baron Davis tied the game at 88 with a three-pointer with 1:48

to go, but after both teams missed on their next possessions, Rasheed Wallace's jumper put Detroit up two with 44.2 seconds left. Former Michigan State star Jason Richardson was fouled 6 seconds later, but missed both free throws, and Prince put the game away with a driving layup at the other end.

Nets 86. Hornets 85 (OT): At New Orleans, Jason Kidd's rebound of a blocked shot and driving layup as he was fouled with 2.5 seconds left in overtime lifted

The Hornets had a chance to win when rookie J.R. Smith, who had been the Hornets best player of the night, was fouled on a three-point attempt with 1.5 sec-

onds to go. But Smith missed the first two foul shots, then tried to miss the third but ended up put-ting it in off the backboard, allow-New Jersey to inbound the all and run out the clock Vince Carter led the Nets with

24 points and 10 rebounds, while Kidd finished with 15 points and nine assists in rescuing the Nets from what nearly was their fourth straight loss.

Bulls 97, Trail Blazers 84: Eddy Curry had 25 points, Kirk Hinrich added 22 and the visiting Bulls reached their highest win total in seven years.

Chicago (31-27) surpassed the 30-win mark for the first time since their last championship season of 1997-98. Chicago, last won in Portland on Jan. 29 1998, has suffered through six consecutive losing seasons, but appear to be on the way to the

Lawyer must testify about brawl client

PONTIAC, Mich. - A lawyer for the man charged with throwing a chair during the Nov. 19 brawl at the game between the Indiana Pacers and Detroit Pistons must testify for the prosecution, a judge has ruled. Kenneth Karasick had sought a

NBA

court order to keep prosecutors from calling him to testify against his client. Bryant

Charges were filed against five Pacers players and seven Pistons fans, including the 35-year-old

Prosecutors say that when Karasick met with Auburn Hills police to review a videotape of the fight, he told a detective, our boy," when the chair thrower appeared on the screen.

On Wednesday, attorneys for Karasick argued that forcing him to testify would violate attor-ney-client privilege. Oakland County assistant prosecutor Paul Walton said that the privilege applied only to conversations Karasick had with Jackson, not those with the Auburn Hills detective.

Circuit Judge Rae Lee Chabot agreed with prosecutors but said they would have to limit their questioning of Karasick to what he said to police about the video, according to the Detroit Free Press and The Daily Oakland Press.

Mavs' Nelson to miss 3 games DALLAS - Dallas Mayericks

coach Don Nelson is once again turning the team over to assistant coach Avery Johnson, this time to be with his wife while she recovers from surgery.

Nelson, the second-winningest coach in NBA history, will miss Thursday night's game at home against the Los Angeles Lakers then a road trip to Milwaukee and Minnesota.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference							
x-Miami x-Detroit x-Boston Washington Cleveland Chicago Orlando Indiana	W 46 37 32 33 32 31 31 30	22 29 26	Pct .742 .627 .525 .559 .542 .534 .517 .500	71 131 111 121 13 14 15			
Philadelphia New Jersey New York Toronto Milwaukee Charlotte Atlanta	29 27 26 26 25 12 10	35 34 46 50	.433 .426 .424 .207 .167	16! 19 19 19! 19! 32 35			
Western Conference							

Western Conference								
x-Phoenix x-San Antonio x-Seattle Dallas Sacramento Houston Memphis Denver	47 41 39 38 35 34	14 18 20 24 25 26	Pct .770 .770 .695 .661 .613 .583 .567 .517	GB - 5 7 91/2 111/2 121/2				
Minnesota L.A. Lakers L.A. Clippers Portland Utah Golden State New Orleans x-division leader Wednesday	22 20 19 13	34 37 40 42 47	.508 .508 .443 .373 .333 .311 .217	26½ 28				
Toronto 106, Orlando 9	16							

Boston 95, Atlanta 91 Detroit 92, Golden State 88 New Jersey 86, New Orleans 85, OT

Phoenix 107, San Antonio 101 Chicago 97, Portland 84 Thursday's games Minnesota at Miami L.A. Lakers at Dallas Priday's games Atlanta at Toronto Golden State at Indiana Charlotte at Philadelphia Minnesota at Orlando Detroit at Poston

ricuston at Phoenix L.A. Clippers at Sacramento Chicago at Seattle Saturday's games New Jersey at Miami Golden State at Atlanta Golden State at Atlanta L.A. Lakers at Charlotte Milwaukee at New Orleans Denver at San Antoni Memphis at Portland

Wednesday Celtics 95, Hawks 91

ATLANTA — Harrington 9-21 3-4 21, J.Smith 2-6 0-0 4, Ekezie 1-9 8-8 10, Childress 4-7 6-6 14, Lue 8-14 7-7 25, Gugliotta 2-8 3-8 7, Drobn-lak 2-4 0-0 4, D.Smith 2-3 0-0 4, Ivey 1-2 0-0 2, Diaw 0-0 0-0 0, Coilier 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 31-74 27-33 91. — Somer v-0 0-0 0. Tótals 31-74 **BOSTON** — Walker 6-9 1-6 15, Pierce 8-11-13 27, LaFrentz 3-10-0-0, Payton 0-5-2-2, Allen 1-3 1-2 3, Davis 8-17 5-6 21, Blount 5-8

0-0 10, West 1-5-0 0-2, Jefferson 3-5-1-7, Reed 0-0 0-0 0, Banks 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 36-78

21-30 95.

Boston Three-Point Goals—Atlanta 2-8 (Lue 2-3, Drobnjak 0-1, Harrington 0-1, Gugliotta 0-3), Boston 2-14 (Walker 2-3, Pierce 0-1, Davis 0-1, Jefferson 0-1, Payton 0-1, LaFrentz 0-3,

West 0-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—At-lanta 68 (Harrington 13), Boston 52 (Pierce 10). Assists—Atlanta 13 (Lue 5), Boston 23 (Davis 5), Total Fouls—Atlanta 23, Boston 24. Raptors 106, Magic 96

ORLANDO — Turkoglu 6-17 6-7 21, Howard 8 7-10 17, Cato 3-8 0-2 6, Francis 9-22 9-11 1, Nelson 6-143-3 17, Battle 1-6 1-2 3, Steven

27) Netson 6-143-5 17, Battlet 1-8 1-73, Stevenson 6-14-12, Garrity 12-6-92, Augmon 1-1TORONITO - Rose 5-10-3 11, Booth 5-17-5-6
TORONITO - Rose 5-10-3 11, Booth 5-17-5
TORONITO - ROSE 5-10-3 11 shall 2-9, Rose 1-2, Alston 0-2), Fouled Out--None, Rebounds—Orlando 62 (Howard 20), Toronto 50 (Bosh 15). Assists—Orlando 13 (Francis 5), Toronto 22 (Rose 8). Total Fouls—Orlando 22, Toronto 25. Techni-cals—Orlando coach Davis, Battle, Francis. Flagrant foul—Howard. A—17,362 (19,800).

Pistons 92, Warriors 88

GOLDEN STATE — Dunleauy 5-11 4-6 15, Murphy 5-12 3-4 14, Foyle 4-6 0-8 Richardson 4-17 2-4 10, Fisher 2-7 3-7, Pietrus 2-5 white 0-2 0-0 0, Cabarriaga 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 3-77, 16-21 8-9, Pietrus 2-5 1-7, 16-7, Pietrus 2-5 1-7, Pietrus 2-7, Pietrus 2-7,

Detroit 22 22 30 18—92 Three-Point Goals—Golden State 6-22 (Davis 3-6, Dunleavy 1-2, Pietrus 1-2, Murphy 1-3, Fisher 0-3, Richardson 0-6), Detroit 2-8 1-3, Fisher 0-3, Richardson 0-6), Detroit 7-8 (Billups 2-4, Hamilton 0-1, Prince 0-1, RWal-lace 0-2). Fouled Out-None. Rebounds-s-Golden State 44 (Foyle 7), Detroit 64 (B.Wallace 16). Assists-Golden State 17 (Ri-chardson 5). Detroit 21 (Hamilton 7). Total Fouls-Golden State 26, Detroit 18. Techni-cals-Golden State Defensive Three Second, Detroit coach Brown. A—22,076. (22,076). Nets 86, Hornets 85 (OT)

19 23 28 18-88 22 22 30 18-92

Golden State Detroit

Suns 107, Spurs 101

SAN ANTONIO — Bowen 3-4 5-7 12, Horry 2-6 4-4 8, Nesterovic 6-9 0-0 12, T. Parker 14-31

2-4 30, Barry 2-7 0-0 5, Massenburg 3-9 3-4 9, Brown 4-13 5-7 13, Udrih 2-4 0-0 4, Wilks 3-6 2-2 8, Totals 39-89 21-28 101. PHOENIX — Richardson 0-0 0-0 0, Marion 9-14 0-0 18, Stoudemir 17-22 10-13 44, Nash 5-13 0-0 11, J

5-10 2-2 15, Jackson 1-4 0-0 3, Hunter 2-2 0-0 4, McCarty 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 44-84 13-17 107. San Antonio Phoenix 36 18 29 24-107 Three-Point Goals—San Antonio 2-15 Horry 0-1, Wilks 0-1 1), Phoenix 6-15 (Bar TPAIRE 03, Brown 23, 114TO Unit Wiles 04, 105 as 1, 50 as

Bulls 97, Trail Blazers 84

CHICAGO — Nocioni 5-13 4-4 14, Davis 3-5 2-2 8, Curry 12-19 1-2 25, Hinrich 8-17 4-6 22, Duhon 2-5 0-0 6, Chandler 4-9 1-4 9, Griffin 0-3 0-0 0, Gordon 3-12 0-0 8, Harrington 2-6 1-2 5,

Frahm 0-1, Telfair 0-1), Fouled Out—None. Re bounds—Chicago 50 (Chandler 13), Portland 51 (Abdur-Rahim 10), Assists—Chicago 22 (Duhon 6), Portland 18 (Stoudamire 5). Tota Fouls—Chicago 23, Portland 16. Techni cals—Chicago Defensive Three Second 2. Fla grant fouls—Miles. A—14,251. (19,396)

Miller extends lead in overall World Cup standings

LENZERHEIDE. Switzerland Michael Walchhofer won the World Cun downhill title Thurs day after finish-



ing fourth in the season's final while race American Bode Miller

stretched his lead for the overall title with a second-place showing. Miller gained 80 points to ex-

tend his lead over Austrian Benjamin Raich to 128 points in the overall standings. Miller and Raich will compete in the remaining three races: super giant slalom, giant slalom and slalom, Miller will clinch the title in Friday's super-G if he wins the race and Raich finishes out of the top 15.

Norway's Lasse Kjus won Thursday's race in 1 minute, 24.09 seconds for his first World Cup downhill victory in over a



Austria's Michael Walchhofer won the World Cup downhill title.

year. Miller, who needed to win to have any chance to take the downhill season title, was 0.14 behind and finished 63 points behind Walchhofer. Fritz Strobl of Austria was third in 1:24.27.

Goetschl wins downhill title

I.ENZERHEIDE, Switzerland - Renate Goetschl of Austria

clinch the women's World Cup downhill title Thursday, capturing the trophy for the fourth time in her career.

Goetschl entered the race with a 32-point lead over Germany's Hilde Gerg, who finished third in Thursday's race and 72 points be-

hind Goetschl. American Lindsey Kildow had

a remote chance to win the downhill title but crashed Thursday. American Julia Mancuso, a double bronze medalist in the world championships, tied for fourth

with Janica Kostelic of Croatia. Anja Paerson's 63-point lead over Kostelic in the overall standings was cut to 45 with three races remaining - a super giant slalom, giant slalom and slalom.

Els trails by seven in Oatar

DOHA, Qatar - Pierre Fulke of Sweden shot 6-under 66 Thursday to take a one-stroke lead after

ters, while Ernie Els, the only player ranked in the top 50 in the field, struggled to a 73

Top panelist that investigated CU said commission was jilted

PUEBLO, Colo. - A leader of an independent commission that investigated the Colorado football recruiting scandal said the panel was "stabbed in the back" and that football coach Gary Barnett should be fired.

Jovce Lawrence, a former state legislator who was co-chairwoman of the panel, told The Pueblo Chieftain on Tuesday that Barnett and other athletic department officials never revealed the existence of a "slush fund" mentioned in a report by a grand jury that conducted a separate probe

'We've been stabbed in the back. They knew what we wanted, but they didn't reveal that to us or to [university president ElizLawrence said.

'Yes, Coach Barnett needs to be replaced," she added. "The football and athletic staff knew the [independent commission] wanted to know about all the money that was going into the program and they never told us about those cash hoves

Both the independent commission and the grand jury investigated the football program last year and concluded that some players had arranged sex, drugs and alcohol for visiting athletes who were being recruited for the team.

The commission, which was appointing by the university's governing Board of Regents, issued a report in May criticizing Hoffman and others for lax oversight but did not call for anyone to be fired.

On Monday, Hoffman announced she was stepping down effective June 30 or when a successor is chosen.

Carruth's lawyers appeal to overturn conviction

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Former Carolina Panthers wide receiver Rae Carruth returned to court Thursday in his latest attempt to overturn a 2001 conviction in the slaying of his pregnant girlfriend.

The appeal in Mecklenburg Superior Court challenges the admission of key prosecution evidence during Carruth's trial in late 2000: a 911 call from girlfriend Cherica Adams following the shooting and what the 24-year-old victim told a police officer at the scene and hospital.

The defense claims Adams statements are hearsay and their introduction into evidence during the murder trial violated Carruth's constitutional right to confront his accuser.

Carruth, a first-round draft pick of the Panthers out of Colorado, is serving a sentence of at least 18 years and 11 months.

Adams was eight months pregnant with Carruth's baby when she was gunned down in a drive-by shooting on Nov. 16, 1999, in south Charlotte. Doctors saved her son, Chancellor, in an emergency Caesarean. But Adams, shot four times, died a month later. Born prematurely and in distress, Chancellor has cerebral palsy.

R.I. legislators take up high-priced autographs

PROVIDENCE, R.I. - After the Boston Red Sox won their first World Series since 1918, some fans were willing to pay hundreds of dollars for memorabilia from the team.

Like other pro athletes before them, Red Sox players cashed in on their triumph by appearing at large-scale autograph signing events to meet fans and sell their signatures for upward of \$100.

A Senate committee on Thursday takes up legislation that would likely put a stop to such events in Rhode Island.

Armstrong drops out of Paris-Nice race CRAPONNE-SUR-ARZON,

France - Six-time Tour de France champion Lance Armdropped out of the Paris-Nice race after the third stage with a sore throat.











SPORTS

Racing Stripes: Nextel Cup veteran Wallace has mixed feelings about last season behind the wheel full-time, Page 25



Army star Davis dead at 80

RB won Heisman in '46, helped Cadets win three national titles

BY JEREMIAH MARQUEZ
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Glenn Davis, who won the Heisman Trophy in 1946 and helped lead Army to three national championships, died Wednesday. He was

Davis died of complications from prostate cancer at his home in La Quinta, located about 110 miles east of Los Angeles, said his son. Ralph Davis.

Glenn Davis will be buried at West Point, near his former coach, Col. Earl "Red" Blaik, according to his son.

Davis starred as a halfback for Army when it won national titles in 1944 and 1945. The Cadets and Notre Dame played to a scoreless tie in 1946, and split the national championship.

Davis teamed with fullback Felix "Doc" Blanchard, the 1945 Heisman winner, as one of the most heralded backfields in the history of college football. He was known as "Mr. Outside" to Blanchard's "Mr. Inside."

Davis scored 59 touchdowns and gained 4,129 yards in rushing and receiving in his college career.

He still holds NCAA records for most yards gained per play in one season, averaging 11.5 yards per carry in 1945; 8.3 career yards per carry; and he and Blanchard share the record for most touchdowns (97) and points (585) scored by teammates in a career.

In 1946, Davis won the Heisman and was voted male athlete of the year by The Associated Press. Davis has the best voting record of any Heisman candidate, finishing second in 1944 and 1945 before winning the award.

"He was one of the best," said former Army guard Joe Steffy, who played with Davis in 1945 and 1946.

"He left an impression. The

first time I met him, I was in awe. What he meant to the military academy and the game of college football needs no explanation."

In 1944, after a famous season-ending win over Navy, Gen Douglas MacArthur even took time out from his war duties to send this wire: "The greatest of all Army teams ... We have stopped the war to celebrate your topped the success. Macmagnificent success. Mac-

Arthur.

A telephone call to Blanchard's home near San Antonio, Texas, was answered by his granddaughter, who said he had already gone to bed. Blanchard won the Heisman in 1945.

After serving his military obligation, Davis joined the Los Angeles Rams, playing on the team that won the 1951 NFL championship before a knee injury cut his career short in 1952.

Renowned for his lightning speed, Davis was coming off a record-breaking career at Bonita High School in LaVerne, Calif, where he scored an amazing 256 points during his senior year, when he was persuaded to play for Army in 1943.

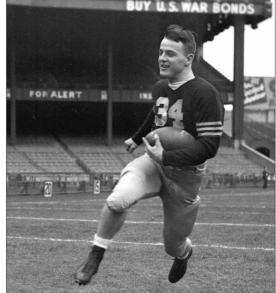
The 5-9, 170-pounder became an instant star. Davis scored his first Army touchdown on a 4-yard run in a 27-0 season-opening win over Villanova, threw a touchdown pass in a 42-0 win over Coladova, threw a touchdown pass in a 42-0 win over Coladova pass in a 42-0 win over Coladova pass in a 52-0 shellacking of Columbia, and returned a kick 75 yards for a touchdown in a 39-7 victory over Yale.

"He was the fastest man in football," Steffy said. "He was a great athlete, believe me."

Davis and Blanchard were na-

Davis and Blanchard were national sports heroes, appearing on the cover of Time magazine in November 1945. Despite the accolades, Davis over the years showed a certain modesty about his prowess

SEE DAVIS ON PAGE 27



Army's Glenn Davis carries the ball in this Nov. 28, 1944 file photo in New York. Davis, who won the Heisman Trophy in 1946 and helped lead Army to a 27-0-1 record and three national championships from 1944 to 1946. died Wednesday of complications from prostate cancer at his home in La Quinta. Calif. He was 80.

Montana,
Fairleigh Dickinson
win conferences,
automatic bids
to NCAA
tournament

Page 29



Congressman says all pro leagues in U.S. should work toward common drug-testing policy

Daga 26



With Duncan,
Ginobili on bench,
Spurs can't
continue recent
domination
against Suns

Page 30

Rutgers drops Notre Dame, puts Irish's NCAA hopes on ropes Page 28